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The  
Pennsylvania-German  
Society.

SKETCH OF ITS ORIGIN,  
WITH THE  
PROCEEDINGS AND ADDRESSES  
AT  
ITS ORGANIZATION.

LANCASTER, APRIL 15TH, 1891.

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN  
SOCIETY:

Your Committee, appointed by the Convention held at Lancaster, Pa., on April 15, 1891, herewith presents to you the volume of Proceedings and Addresses it was authorized to prepare, together with a brief sketch of the origin of our Society, and the proceedings of the meetings preliminary to the organization. Hoping that our work may meet with your approval, we remain respectfully,

E. W. S. PARTHMORE,  
FRANK R. DIFFENDERFFER,  
JOHN S. STAHR,  
J. MAX HARK,  
HIRAM YOUNG,

*Committee.*

## INTRODUCTORY.

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It has been thought that a brief account of the beginnings of the movement which culminated in the organization of the Pennsylvania-German Society, would be a suitable prefix to this little volume, containing the record of the formal establishment of the said Society on the 15th of last April.

In this, as in many other progressive movements of the day, the newspaper press has been a very important factor. The idea of such an organization, inspired with such purposes, it is true, did not originate with the newspapers. It is an old one and had its conception in the minds of many persons, long years ago. In fact, it was a favorite scheme with writers and thinkers of Pennsylvania-German origin for generations. The "Sleeping Giant," as the Pennsylvania-German element has been aptly called, could not fail to impress them with his latent possibilities, and for almost a century there seems to have been a yearning among these people towards that fuller recognition, which as the preponderating element of this great State, it was felt they deserved. But, with characteristic diffidence, they kept themselves in the background and permitted men of other nationalities to fill the places and exercise controlling influence where they themselves should have assumed direction. In the fullness of time, the hour seems to have come. The "Sleeping Giant" is about to awake from his prolonged slumbers and arouse to the magnitude and importance of the destiny that lies before him. That he will measure up to the full stature predicted of him, and prove himself second to none in all that constitutes loyalty to race and

progress, and fidelity to the land of his adoption, seems assured.

During the months of December, 1890, and January, 1891, articles appeared in various journals throughout Eastern Pennsylvania, the earliest being in *THE LEBANON DAILY REPORT*, followed by *THE NEW ERA*, of Lancaster, and the Philadelphia *INQUIRER*, advocating the formation of a Pennsylvania-German Society. A correspondence on the subject was finally opened by Mr. Frank R. Diffenderffer, one of the editors of *THE NEW ERA*, with Dr. William H. Egle, State Librarian, and he was invited to come to Lancaster to discuss the question. The result was that on February 14, 1891, he came to Lancaster, and, in the editorial rooms of *THE NEW ERA*, found John S. Stahr, D. D., J. Max Hark, D.D., R. K. Buehrle, Ph.D., E. O. Lyte, Ph.D., and Frank R. Diffenderffer, who had been invited to meet him. After a full and free discussion of the whole question, it was decided to invite a number of representative men in the German counties of Eastern Pennsylvania to an informal conference in the city of Lancaster, on the 26th of February.

This was done, and on the above mentioned day, the conference met in the study of Dr. Hark, in the Moravian parsonage. It was found that nine counties were represented, namely:

Carbon County—E. H. Rauch.

Chester County—Julius F. Sachse.

Dauphin County—W. H. Egle, E. W. S. Parthemore, Maurice C. Eby.

Lancaster County—J. Max Hark, H. A. Brickenstein, Frank R. Diffenderffer.

Lebanon County—Theodore E. Schmauk, Lee L. Grumbine.

Lehigh County—Edwin Albright, A. R. Horne.

Luzerne County—F. K. Levan.

Northampton County—Jeremiah H. Hess, Paul de Schweinitz.

York County—Hiram Young.

Dr. Egle was called to preside over the meeting, and in doing so succinctly stated the purpose and importance of the contemplated movement. Frank R. Diffenderffer was chosen as temporary Secretary. A large number of letters were read from prominent citizens of the State, who were unavoidably absent, but who nevertheless felt a deep interest in the step under consideration, and were anxious to promote it in every possible way. Encouragement came from all sides, and co-operation was promised on every hand.

All present in turn gave expression to their views, and it was found that the universal feeling was towards a permanent organization, having for its aim the collection and preservation of all landmarks and records relating to the early German and Swiss immigrants to Pennsylvania, and the development of a friendly and fraternal spirit among all united by the ties of a common ancestry.

An animated discussion arose over the name to be given to the proposed organization, the names "Pennsylvania-German Society" and "Pennsylvania-Dutch Society" being warmly supported. A suggestion to defer the matter to a subsequent meeting was not agreed to, and a resolution to use the name Pennsylvania-German Society in the call for a general Convention was finally adopted. Lebanon, Philadelphia and Lancaster were severally proposed as the place where this Convention should be held. The last named city was finally decided upon, and the 15th of the following April was selected as the time.

The Chairman was instructed to name a committee of five, of which he was also to be a member, to prepare a call for the general Convention. The Committee, subsequently named, consisted of Theodore E. Schmauk,

J. S. Stahr, Hiram Young, Frank R. Diffenderffer and George F. Baer. This Committee met in THE NEW ERA building on the 9th of March, all the members being present except Mr. Baer, who was unavoidably absent. The general character and phraseology of the proposed address and call were discussed. The document on page 10 in this volume was finally adopted. It was decided to circulate it as widely as possible by circular and through the medium of the newspaper press. This was subsequently done, and the large Convention held on April 15, in the Lancaster County Court House, was the result. In the following pages will be found a full report of the proceedings and addresses attending the formal organization of the Society.

F. R. D.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

— OF THE —

PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN CONVENTION,

HELD IN COURT HOUSE, LANCASTER, PA.,

On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15th, 1891.

---

MORNING SESSION, 10 O'CLOCK.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock, a. m., by W. H. Egle, M.D., of Harrisburg, who said:

“*Ladies and Gentlemen:*—As Chairman of the Preliminary Conference, it becomes my duty to call this assemblage to order, which I now do; and we will have, before effecting a temporary organization, music from the Lancaster Mænnerchor.”

After the Lancaster Mænnerchor had rendered several characteristic German folk-songs, led by Prof. Carl Matz, the call that had been issued convening this meeting was read by Frank R. Diffenderffer, of Lancaster.



## THE CALL.

People who will take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors, will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants.—*Macaulay.*

*To the Descendants of the Early German and Swiss Settlers in Pennsylvania, Wheresoever Dispersed.*

At a preliminary conference of descendants of the early German and Swiss settlers, held at Lancaster on the 26th of February, it was resolved to call a meeting on April 15th, 1891, to organize a Pennsylvania-German Society.

It is eminently proper that the descendants of these people should associate themselves in memory of those who "made the wilderness blossom as the rose," to show to the offspring of other nationalities that they are not behind them in any of the attributes which go to make up the best citizens of the best State in the best Government of the world. In the art of printing, in the realm of science and letters, in religious fervor, in pure statesmanship, in war and in peace, the Pennsylvania-German-Swiss element has equalled any other race.

It has long been everywhere recognized by the descendants of the early American colonists as a matter of great importance to effect organizations of the character we propose, for the purpose of searching out and preserving all ancestral records; for the purpose of bringing their forefathers into such recognition in the eyes of the world, and especially of their own children, as they deserve; for the purpose of developing the friendly and fraternal spirit that should exist between those in whose veins the same blood flows; for the purpose of lifting history, now un-

noticed or unknown, into honor; and, very particularly, for the purpose of preserving to posterity the old public records, landmarks and memorials, which in another generation will have entirely disappeared.

The co-operation of our fellow Pennsylvania-Germans is hereby cordially invited in this movement, and they are earnestly requested to be present in the City of Lancaster at 10 o'clock a. m., on the 15th day of April, and we ask them to use their influence to secure the presence of all representative descendants of our common ancestry, that the meeting may prove a great success,

W. H. Egle, Dauphin County.

E. W. S. Parthemore, Dauphin County.

R. K. Buehrle, Lancaster County.

H. A. Brickenstein, Lancaster County.

F. R. Diffenderffer, Lancaster County.

T. C. Zimmerman, Berks County.

A. R. Horne, Lehigh County.

Paul de Schweinitz, Northampton County.

Hiram Young, York County.

L. L. Grumbine, Lebanon County.

S. P. Heilman, Lebanon County.

Julius F. Sachse, Chester County.

Benjamin Whitman, Erie County.

C. P. Humrich, Cumberland County.

Benjamin M. Nead, Franklin County.

Daniel Eberly, Adams County.

Maurice C. Eby, Dauphin County.

John S. Stahr, Lancaster County.

J. Max Hark, Lancaster County.

E. O. Lyte, Lancaster County.  
George F. Baer, Berks County.  
Edwin Albright, Lehigh County.  
Jere. A. Hess, Northampton County.  
E. H. Rauch, Carbon County.  
Theodore E. Schmauk, Lebanon County.  
Grant Weidman, Lebanon County.  
F. K. Levan, Luzerne County.  
James A. Beaver, Centre County.  
Boyd Crumrine, Washington County.  
S. W. Pennypacker, Philadelphia.  
H. A. Muhlenberg, Berks County.

Then, after a motion had been passed to proceed to temporary organization, the Rev. John S. Stahr, D.D., President of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., nominated as chairman the Hon. George F. Baer, of Reading, Pa., who was unanimously chosen.

Thereupon the following prayer was offered up by the Rev. Paul de Schweinitz, of Nazareth, Northampton Co., Pa.:

#### PRAYER.

Lord, God, our Father, who art in heaven, Thou God of our fathers, we praise Thee and acknowledge Thee to be the Lord. We thank Thee, that Thou hast permitted us to gather together in this Convention so auspiciously for the purpose we have in view, and we humbly beseech Thee to look down in favor upon us, and to bless us in our undertaking. We praise Thee, O Lord, for this fair land Thou hast given us, and for the liberty of con-

science we have enjoyed therein. We praise Thee for the frugal, industrious, pious ancestry we may look back upon, and for the blessing upon their labors, which have made the wilderness to blossom as the rose. We praise Thee for the Christian faith of our fathers and for the transplanting of the earnest German piety of earlier years to these shores. We praise Thee for the school houses and the churches that dot our lands, and for the testimony they have borne unto Thy Holy Name. But we would fain confess before Thee, O Lord, that we have not ever walked in the paths of the holy faith we knew, nor ever lived up to the high ideals of our fathers, and we beseech Thee to mercifully forgive our many sins and shortcomings, and to inspire us to reveal in our present lives the deep-flowering German piety of former days to the honor of Thy name. Grant that we as a society may not be filled with a spirit of self-glorification, but that in our efforts to perpetuate the noble deeds of our German ancestors, we may be moved to emulate their virtues, to avoid their faults, and to testify by our lives to the influence of worthy parentage. Grant that the labors of this society may result in a more glowing patriotism for the land where our fathers settled, and for whose weal they labored, in a sanctified patriotism, desirous of having this country become, be and remain a Christian nation. Grant that nothing may be done contrary to the spirit of Thy holy law, and then graciously cause us and our undertaking to prosper. Hear us, we beseech Thee, in these our imperfect supplications for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, to Whom, with Thee, and

the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and evermore  
AMEN.

On assuming the Chair, the Hon. George F. Baer said: "Gentlemen of the Convention, permit me to thank you for this compliment. I will reserve speech making until after the address of welcome. I have the honor, therefore, to introduce to you the Hon. E. K. Martin, of Lancaster."

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

*Mr. Martin spoke as follows:*

Bancroft says of the Germans in America: "Neither they nor their descendants have laid claim to all that is their due." This may be attributable partly to language, partly to race, instincts and hereditary tendencies. Quiet in their tastes, deeply absorbed in the peaceful vocations of life, undemonstrative to the verge of diffidence, without clannish propensities, they have permitted their more aggressive neighbors to deny them a proper place even on the historic page.

At the close of the Thirty Year's war there ran through Protestant Germany a broad line; upon the one side of that line stood the followers of Luther and Zwingli, of Melancthon and Calvin—these were the Church people; upon the other side stood Menno Simon and "The Separatists"—these were the Sect people. It was a line which divided persecution by new boundaries, and left the fag-got and the stake in new hands, for the Peace of Westphalia had thrown the guarantees of its powerful protection only over the one side of this Protestant division. It

was a line which in the New World, though less discernible than in the Old, is only becoming obliterated in the widening philanthropy of our own times.

We meet here to-day in the home of the descendants of the Sect people, where, perhaps more than anywhere else in America, have been preserved in their original purity, the thoughts, the faith, the habits, the ways of living, even the dress of the Reformation period.

When "the news spread through the Old World that William Penn, the Quaker, had opened an asylum to the good and the oppressed of every nation, and Humanity went through Europe gathering up the children of misfortune," our forefathers came out from their hiding places in the forest depths and the mountain valleys which the sun never penetrated, clad in homespun, their feet shod with wood, their dialects oftentimes unintelligible to each other. There was scarcely a family among them which could not be traced to some ancestor burned at the stake for conscience sake. Judge Pennypacker says: "Their whole literature smacks of fire. Besides a record like theirs the sufferings of Pilgrim and Quaker seem trivial." And yet, my friends, even the German schoolboy is taught to regard these Pilgrim sacrifices of a handful of Englishmen as the noblest ever laid upon the altars of conscience and humanity. The story of their sufferings, which at most extended over a few generations and a small area of territory, has been told and retold with distressing particularity. There is not an event or object from the departure from Delftshaven to the chair of Carver and the pot and platter of Miles Standish, which have not been held up to veneration by poet, painter and orator.



But in the noisy clamor for worldly recognition our people have gone their silent, uncomplaining way, and their story is yet to be told; and they have not been entirely unmindful of worldly attributes, either. They have simply discriminated. While New England, with her stony acres, is fast becoming depopulated by the sons of the Puritan, and her old homesteads are empty or occupied by an alien race, the descendants of our ancestors live in the first agricultural county of the United States, shape its destiny, control its life, hold its lands by ancient indentures, supplemented by grants from father to son reaching backward in one ever-strengthening chain of titles to the original patents of Penn, implanting in a glorious Commonwealth a true conservatism and adorning it continually with renewed evidences of prosperity and thrift.

I know you will pardon me for having taken this type of German-American life with which I am most familiar as an illustration of the thought which this society has been formed to emphasize. What may be said of the Lancaster county German and the descendants of the Sect people may be said of the German descendants of the early immigrants of every class. We of the nineteenth century have not been sufficiently mindful of that glorious history which with rigid simplicity, and stout self-denial, so long and so successfully resisted Roman absolutism in Europe during the fifteenth century. We have failed to preserve with true fidelity the records of the great pioneer period of Pennsylvania, when our forefathers broke in upon the forest and helped to plant



the foundations of our National life. We do not sufficiently share the pride that their glorious names have given to the Revolutionary period when this Government took shape, and to the magnificent army of German-American statesmen, and warriors and patriots from that hour to this. The descendants of the old Knickerbockers have a Holland Society in New York, the pride of membership in which is held with more favor than across the water they regard a royal mark or garter. The Huguenots preserve in their organized circles the history of the grand old Frenchmen who stood for civil and religious liberty in the face of axe and faggot, and their descendants yearly assemble in our seaboard cities to congratulate themselves upon the blood of the martyrs which flows in their veins.

The New England Society—They have a banquet every night, I think; at least an issue of the New York *Tribune* would not be complete without some account of their meeting somewhere.

And yet I say to you, fellow Germans, if you will turn to the history of your ancestors, and read the story of their sufferings, persecutions, stout abnegation through eight centuries in which cruel selfishness and heartless bigotry assumed the wardship of conscience, you will find that the trials of the ancestors of these feasting Puritans, great as they were, compared with the trials of your own people, are as the waters of Marah beside the plagues of Egypt.

But this gathering here is an earnest of the fact that the Pennsylvania-German, who has been called a sleeping

giant, is about to bestir himself, and I welcome you to nor midst to inaugurate the great undertaking.

Lancaster county, which glories in being a typical Pennsylvania-German community, bids you thrice welcome to her borders. Lancaster city, where every heart-throb is in sympathy with the German-American life, bids you welcome.

RESPONSE BY MR. BAER:

*Gentlemen:*—The duty devolves upon me as Chairman of this Convention to make a brief response to the high words of praise in which the kindly welcome of the citizens of Lancaster has been extended to the descendants of the early Pennsylvania-Germans assembled here to-day.

It is meet and right that the first meeting of the Pennsylvania-German Convention should be held here, in the heart of Eastern Pennsylvania; here in Lancaster County, the garden-spot of Pennsylvania, made such by the industry, thrift and taste of the early German settlers.

It is singular that the true character, mission and work of the early Pennsylvania-Germans, the influence they exerted, and the part they took in the struggle for independence and the formation of our government, should be so completely ignored or misunderstood. Some of our friends are disposed to attach the whole blame to the New England and the English historians. It is undoubtedly true that as a rule they have utterly failed to understand our people, and do not regard them as factors in the history of the nation. But which of you, looking honestly into the matter, can fail to see that the blame

falls as much on the German descendants as on the historians of this and of former days? Have we not been remiss in asserting the truth of History? Have we not been indifferent to the good deeds and fame of our ancestry? Have not many of us in acquiring an English tongue, lost all interest in our Teutonic ancestors, and become disposed to regard the general order of our American national life as an English development pure and simple?

When we recall the fact, that at the time of the Declaration of Independence, nearly one-half of the population of Pennsylvania was German, we may well ask ourselves: "How comes it that in the many stories of this struggle for independence, the German figures so indifferently on the pages of written history."

The answer is not difficult. You must remember that Pennsylvania was an English colony, regulated and controlled by English laws and customs. The thousands of Germans, Swiss and Dutch who migrated here on the invitation of Penn, came without ability to speak the English language, and without any knowledge, except that derived from general report, of the customs and habits of thought of the English people. They went vigorously to work to clear the wilderness and establish homes. They were sober, religious, orderly, industrious and thrifty. The reports the earlier settlers made to their friends at home of the prosperity and liberty they enjoyed in their new homes, induced from year to year many others to come. Their numbers increased so much as to alarm the proprietary officials. Logan wanted their immigration prevented by Act of Parliament, "for fear the colony would in time be lost to the crown." He wrote a

letter in which he says: "The numbers from Germany at this rate will soon produce a German colony here, and perhaps such a one as Britain received from Saxony in the Fifth Century." As early as 1747, one of the proprietary Governors attributed the prosperity of the Pennsylvania colony to the thrift, sobriety and good characters of the Germans. Numerous as they were, because this was in its government a purely English colony, the part they took in its public affairs was necessarily limited. The Government officials and the vast majority of the members of the Assembly were all English. During the long struggle in the Colonies to adjust the strained relations with Great Britain, the Germans were seemingly indifferent. They saw no practical gain in surrendering the Penn Charter, and Proprietary Government, under which they had obtained their homes, for the direct rule of the British King. They could not understand the distinction between King and Parliament. The attempts to condemn the acts of the King's Parliament and to praise the King, were without meaning to them. They had long learned not to put their trust in princes. Long before the Commonwealth of England was created, the people who spoke their language, practiced their religion, and loved freedom, had established the Dutch Republic and the Swiss Confederation. When, therefore, in 1776, the issue was suddenly enlarged into a broad demand for final separation from Great Britain, and the creation of a Republic, all their traditional love of freedom was fully aroused.

Under the Proprietary rule, although constituting

nearly one-half the population of the colony, they were practically without representation in the General Assembly, and without voice in the Government. The right of "electing or being elected" to the Assembly was confined to natural born subjects of England, or persons naturalized in England or in the province, who were 21 years old, and freeholders of the province owning fifty acres of seated land, and at least twelve acres improved, or worth clear fifty pounds and a resident for two years. Naturalization was not the simple thing it now is. The conditions were exceptionally severe, and comparatively few Germans qualified themselves to vote.

The delegates to the Colonial Congress were selected by the General Assembly. In November, 1775, the Assembly instructed the Pennsylvania delegates not to vote for separation from Great Britain. The majority of the delegates were against separation. The Assembly refused to rescind the instructions of November, 1775. The efforts to have the naturalization laws and the oath of allegiance to the King repealed, failed. At the election for new members in May, 1776, in Philadelphia, three out of four of those elected were opposed to separation. The situation was most critical. Independence and union were not possible without Pennsylvania. Geographically, she was midway between the Colonies. She was one of the wealthiest and strongest. Her government was in the hands of those opposed to separation. One course only remained. Peaceful efforts in the Assembly to enfranchise the Germans, by repealing the naturalization laws and oath of allegiance, had failed, and now this must be

accomplished by revolution, because their enfranchisement would give the friends of liberty and union an overwhelming and aggressive majority. This was the course resolved on. The Philadelphia Committee called a conference of committees of the Counties. On the 18th of June, 1776, this provincial conference, numbering one hundred and four, met in Philadelphia. The German counties were represented no longer by English tories. There were leading Germans in the delegations from Philadelphia, Lancaster, Northampton, York, Bucks and Berks. In Berks, the loyalist Biddle gives place to eight prominent Germans, headed by Gov. Hiester, Cols. Hunter, Eckert and Lutz.

The proprietary government of Pennsylvania, with its Tory Assembly, was overthrown—foundation, pillar and dome.

This conference called a Provincial Convention to frame a new Government. On the petition of the Germans, the members of that Convention were to be elected by persons qualified to vote for Assembly, and by the military associators (volunteers), being freemen twenty-one years of age, resident in the province one year. This gave the Germans the right to vote. Thus says Bancroft: "The Germans were incorporated into the people and made one with them." The 19th of June, 1776, enfranchised the Germans, and made the Declaration of Independence possible.

The Provincial Conference signed a paper declaring their willingness to concur in a vote of Congress to declare the United Colonies free and independent States. Penn-



sylvania's attitude was no longer doubtful. The Tories saw that with the German vote and power in the colony against them, the cause of the King was hopeless. There were no German Tories. The effect of this new order of things was felt instantly throughout the Colonies. When on July 2, 1776, the Colonial Congress reached a vote on the resolution declaring the Colonies free and independent States, the vote of Pennsylvania was cast in its favor by three of its delegates, Franklin, Wilson and Morton. Dickinson and Morris stayed away. Willing and Humphrey were present, but did not vote.

You see, it is absolutely true, that, as the English people of the province were divided in 1776, the Germans were the potential factors in securing the essential vote of Pennsylvania for the Declaration of Independence.

These are pregnant facts worthy of marked notice in the story of Independence, which hitherto have received slight attention from historians, and have not been shouted from the hilltops by the descendants of the Pennsylvania-Germans.

Throughout the Revolution, these Germans, called by the New England Historian Parkman "dull and ignorant boors—a character not wholly inapplicable to the great body of their descendants," were the steadfast defenders of the new Republic. Dr. Stillé, in his recent admirable "Life of Dickinson," concedes that "no portion of the population was more ready to defend its homes, or took up arms more willingly in support of the American cause." Washington, when in Philadelphia after the war, testified his high appreciation of the hearty support the Germans



gave him, and the cause he represented, by worshipping with his family in the old German church on Race street.

The descendants of the Pennsylvania-Germans have settled all over the West, contributing to Ohio, Illinois and other Western States, the same sturdy, honest population that characterizes Pennsylvania. From Revolutionary times until now, they have borne an honorable part in the Nation's history and progress. In every work, in times of trial, in peace, and war, they have shown themselves the equals of the best in the land.

It is high time, therefore, men of Pennsylvania-German descent, that some action should be taken to assert the truth of history. Let this meeting be the beginning of a fixed determination to see that justice is done our ancestors for the part they took and the influence they exerted in the creation, development and support of this glorious Republic. Although they came here from Germany, they were as truly American as any of the English speaking people. They have never claimed any other nationality. In the same spirit, we do not propose to organize a German society, to praise our ancestors as Germans, or to bother with foreign German problems, or customs. We have too many organizations in this land whose sole concern is with Old World conditions. We are Americans, and as such let us frown upon the insolence that seeks to exalt any other than the American flag. It is only because our ancestors became thoroughly American, and as such brought whatever was good in their old German training to the work of establishing this free American government, that we have a right to organize this

society. We will not come in conflict with other similar organizations. No man can go further than I will to praise the part the Puritans took in the formation of this government. They are in many things narrow, contracted and selfish, but they have great virtues, and some that we might well imitate. We are a little slow, perhaps too conservative to be very brilliant, but then we are sure and safe, and in the long run this counts. (Applause.)

Neither would I detract from the great part the Scotch-Irish took in Pennsylvania. They stood shoulder to shoulder with the Pennsylvania-Germans in the great contest I have described and in the early organization of this government, and they are entitled to all praise. They have their organizations to perpetuate the undying fame of their ancestors, and it is right that we should follow their example.

It is in this spirit, therefore, that we are assembled here to-day; and I hope that what we shall do will be wisely done; that the society we shall organize will reflect honor upon our ancestors and incite our descendants to a just appreciation of their character and worth.

The attention of the chair being called to the absence of a secretary, nominations for that office were received as follows:

E. W. S. Parthemore nominated Frank R. Diffenderffer. Nominations closed and he was declared elected.

The report of the local committee was next in order, and the Rev. Dr. John S. Stahr reported as follows:

## REPORT OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE.

As chairman of the Local Committee, I have only a partial report to make. In the first place—but before I proceed to say what the committee has done I wish to state how this committee came to be appointed. Those of the gentlemen who were present at the convention of the preliminary conference will recollect that a committee was appointed to issue a call. That committee thought that there ought to be a local committee of arrangements and it was accordingly appointed. Now, as chairman of that committee, I wish to say that we have done three things. We have, in the first place, made arrangements for this meeting; we have secured the Court House; we have tried to secure a comfortable place in which to transact your business. In the second place we have tried to assist the committee appointed to send out invitations and to secure the attendance here of representative Pennsylvania-Germans.

Of course, in this matter we have felt the difficulty under which we labored. We did not have lists from the different counties; but we have done the best we could. The Secretary of the Committee of the Preliminary Conference has been diligent in sending out invitations. It was impossible to reach everybody, but if we form ourselves into a missionary society to-day, I hope we shall be able to reach all Pennsylvania-Germans and secure them for members of this body. It was thought that in order to secure the successful prosecution of the business which brings us together we ought to have the draft of a constitution before us. The preparation of a constitution

necessarily is a pretty difficult piece of work. We have, therefore, met together, we have deliberated over this matter and we have prepared a draft of a constitution which will presently be read by the Secretary of our Committee. I wish to say, however, that we do not presume to offer this constitution as one which you ought necessarily to adopt, and what we present in the shape of a constitution is merely in the way of suggestion. We have tried to do the best we could. There are a number of points in the constitution, I know, concerning which there will be a difference of opinion; and whether or not you agree with what we have done on the subject of membership and other points which will come up for consideration here, you will please understand that we have tried to be as liberal as we possibly could; whilst at the same time we may have felt that in some things we might have drawn the lines more closely than we have.\*

GERMAN SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA SENDS GREETING.

The chair here announced the presence of a committee of gentlemen from the German Society of Philadelphia, who had been appointed to present its respects and good wishes to this convention.

Prof. Oswald Seidensticker, M.D., of the University of Pennsylvania, and of said committee, said:

Mr. President: The German Society of Philadelphia, founded in the year 1764, has had a long and honorable

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\* The gentlemen who served on this Committee were as follows: J. S. Stahr, *Chairman*; J. Marx Hark, *Secretary*; John B. Warfel, R. K. Buehrle, J. W. B. Bausman, E. K. Martin and F. R. Diefenderffer.

career. Whilst devoted mainly to objects of charity, it has for a long time been entirely in sympathy with the objects which this newly-formed society is going to pursue exclusively. For a number of years the Society has been collecting matters pertaining to the Pennsylvania-Germans. There was also connected with the German Society an advanced society or verein, which pursued exactly the same objects which this society will pursue. They held their meetings in the homes of the members of the society and may be considered as a branch of it.

I will not delay your proceedings further than to say that the German Society takes great interest in and conveys its good wishes for the success of this Society. (Applause.)

General Louis Wagner, also of said Committee, then spoke as follows:

It is a matter of regret that the President of the German Society was not able to come with us. We are here as the representative of this, the oldest Society in Pennsylvania, to bid it God-speed, and we are anxious to become members of this new Society at the regular and proper time.

By the CHAIR.

If there is no objection, I suggest that these delegates from the German Society be admitted to the floor and be given the privilege of participating in our proceedings.

There was no objection, and the two gentlemen were invited to the courtesies of the Convention.

The draft of the proposed constitution was next read

by the Rev. J. Max Hark, D.D., of Lancaster, Pa., secretary of the local committee.

The Chair further asked what order or disposition the Convention would make of the proposed constitution, and suggested that two committees be appointed, one to take up exclusively the subject of membership, as being possibly the most important feature in the constitution; and the other committee to take up the general features of the constitution and report at the afternoon meeting.

The Chair still further suggested that all announce their names and residences when they rise and speak.

By PROF. I. S. GEIST, of Marietta, Pa.:

It seems to me the name suggested by that paper might be changed to the German Society of Pennsylvania. It is a Society that is to be in this state, and it is a Society of the descendants of the Germans.

By the REV. DR. JOHN S. STAHR:

The course suggested by the President, I think, is a proper one, to refer this constitution to a committee, or to several committees, and then it will be in order to debate upon it.

It was then moved that two committees be appointed, the one to report on membership and the other on the remainder of the Constitution. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Chair asked what the size of these committees should be.

H. A. Muhlenberg, Esq., of Reading, Pa., moved that each Committee consist of five members. The motion was seconded and carried.



By the CHAIR.

Will the Convention name the members?

The Rev. Dr. John S. Stahr suggested that the Chair name the committees.

The Rev. Paul de Schweinitz inquired whether it would not be well to call the roll by counties and find out who were present.

The Chair suggested that all persons report their names and addresses to the Secretary, and for that purpose the Convention took an intermission of ten minutes.

A motion was then carried to have the Secretary call a list of the counties, and as the counties were called, the gentlemen in attendance to give their names. The following delegates were reported as present so far as could be ascertained:

Berks.—Hon. George F. Baer, Esq., Geo. C. Heckman, Esq., Col. Thos. C. Zimmerman, Samuel A. Baer, H. A. Muhlenberg, Esq., M. L. Montgomery, Esq., Amos Reiff.

Carbon.—E. H. Rauch.

Chester.—Julius F. Sachse, Esq., Isaac W. Urner.

Clearfield.—P. S. Weber.

Cumberland.—C. P. Humerick, Esq.

Dauphin.—Dr. W. H. Egle, Hon. David Mumma, Paul A. Kunkel, Benjamin M. Nead, Maurice C. Eby, E. W. S. Parthemore, D. C. Maurer, H. C. Reinhold, B. F. Myers, Judge A. O. Hiester, Gabriel Hiester, William P. Smull, Dr. John P. Keller, Dr. Nead.

Franklin.—Franklin Keagy.

Lancaster.—J. L. Steinmetz, Esq., Rev. John S. Stahr, D.D., Rev. J. Max Hark, D.D., Rev. Chas. L. Fry, F.



R. Diffenderffer, W. M. Franklin, S. M. Sener, Esq., J. W. B. Bausman, Esq., R. K. Buehrle, Ph.D., Rev. D. W. Gerhart, Rev. Theo. Appel, D.D., Prof. Carl. Thorbahn, J. B. Warfel, Esq., E. A. Becker, C. Musselman, H. E. Slaymaker, M. J. Brecht, W. D. Weaver, Esq., Major A. C. Reinøhl, T. P. Bowman, E. K. Martin, Esq., city; Geo. H. Richards, Isaac L. Bowman and Rev. J. H. Pennypacker, Columbia; Hon. Esaias Billingsfelt, Adamstown; Christian Keneagy, M.D., Strasburg; Isaac Bushong, Bird-in-Hand; Prof. I. S. Geist, Marietta; W. L. Hershey, Landisville; Rev. John P. Stein, A. O. Newpher, Esq., Millersville; Peter Hershey, Leaman Place; Hon. G. H. Ranck, New Holland; J. R. Hoffer, Mount Joy; John G. Zook, George Hepp, Captain John R. Bricker, Lititz; W. J. Kafroth, West Earl; Rev. A. B. Saylor, Terre Hill; Abram Summy, J. L. Brandt, Marietta; Dr. J. L. Hertz, Lexington; Rev. S. M. Roeder, Elizabethtown; Daniel Herr, Pequea; Dr. E. O. Lyte, Levi S. Reist, Rev. J. W. Meminger, Prof. G. F. Mull, Prof. J. E. Kershner, Rev. John Kohler, D. M. Swarr, Prof. Jos. H. Dubbs, D.D., John W. Appel, Esq., Dr. Thos. G. Appel, Hon. E. S. Hoover, A. J. Kauffman, Esq., Rev. J. W. Hassler, J. Hay Brown, Esq., B. Frank Eshleman, Esq., Hon. Marriott Brosius, Esq., Judge D. W. Patterson, Hon. Henry M. Engle.

Lebanon.—L. L. Grumbine, Esq., Dr. E. Grumbine, Dr. J. R. Heilman, John W. Mish, A. Hess, Henry S. Heilman, J. H. Redsecker, Jacob A. Shindel, Grant Weidman, Esq., Geo. B. Shock, Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, D.D., Rev. T. E. Schmauk, B. Frank Hean, C. Shenk.

Lehigh.—Dr. A. R. Horne, Dr. A. J. G. Dubbs, T. H. Diehl, Hon. E. Albright, E. A. Neiser.

Luzerne.—Rev. F. K. Levan, D.D.

Montgomery.—Rev. Dr. C. L. Weiser, J. N. Faust, Samuel Grob, Rev. Matthias Sheeleigh, D.D.

Northampton.—J. F. Beitel, Rev. Paul de Schweinitz, Rev. C. D. Levan, Hon. Jere. S. Hess.

Philadelphia.—Rudolph Blankenberg, Dr. Oswald Seidensticker, Gen. Louis Wagner.

Westmoreland.—J. J. Bierer.

York.—Henry L. Fisher, Esq., Hon. A. Hiestand Glatz, Hiram Young, Jos. S. Keagy.

M. D. Larned, Associate Professor of German in Johns-Hopkins University, was among the visitors.

It was suggested that a member from each county be represented on the Committee on Constitution.

By the CHAIR.

Will Lansacter county name one member for each of these committees?

The roll of counties was then called and the names and addresses of those present taken, after which the chair announced the following committees:

Committee on Membership—H. A. Muhlenberg, Berks county; Samuel Grob, Montgomery county; F. K. Levan, Luzerne county; W. H. Egle, Dauphin county; Grant Weidman, Lebanon county.

Committee on Constitution—L. L. Grumbine, Lebanon county; H. L. Fisher, York county; J. S. Hess, Northampton county; Julius F. Sachse, Chester county; A. R. Horne, Lehigh county.

By the CHAIR:

The next thing in order is the appointment of a Committee on Permanent Organization.

A motion for the appointment of such committee was seconded and carried, and the Chair appointed the following on said committee: John S. Stahr, Lancaster county; E. W. S. Parthemore, Dauphin county; H. A. Muhlenberg, Berks county; Hiram Young, York county; J. H. Redsecker, Lebanon county.

After the preliminary business, the convention listened to the following address in Pennsylvania-German, by E. H. Rauch, of Mauch Chunk, on

“DE OLTA UN NEIA TZEITA.”

Ich con on nix bessers denka os a pawr wardt sawga weaga de olta un neia tzeita. Suppose mer mista now widder tzurick gæ ivver fooftzieh yohr, un laiva we sellamohls? Denk a mohl drau, ainer het business in Pittsburg, un mist dort si in dri odder feer dawg. Ar kent's net du in wennieher os sex dawg in der stage we se ols gatraveled sin sellamohls. Un suppose eber het in sella dawga bahawpt os de tzeit yeamohls coomd wann ainer mit feer odder finf hoonert onnera, all in ainer foor ob shtarta con fun doh om sivva uhr owets, un im same grossa foorwaisa, os runn'd ona geil, ins bet gæ, un goot shlofa, un der naigshlt morya om sivva uhr uf wecka un grawd ous der foor in de shtadt Pittsburg shteppa, un ins grose wærtshouse shteppa, un ins grose wærtshouse, esst'n morya-essa un don si bisness tenda in a pawr shtund, un d'no widder in der shteam foor tzurick un by siner fraw un fomelia aw landa un 'si naucht essa nemma derhame alles inside fun feer un twansieh shtoond! Wann aner for fooftsich yohr tzurick contend het os mer yeamohls so travella con,

sex, odder sivva hoonert mile in ame dawg, so ainer hetta se grawd ei gshpart im norra house. Un suppose ebber het sellamohls bahawpt os de tzeit coom'd os de leit in unserm lond all de particulars laisa kenna in de tzeitunga wass g'happened is om dawg tzufore in Deitshlond, Eng-lond un all de hawpt shtedt in der gonsa welt, un os leit direct mitnonner shwetza kenna wann se aw fooftsich odder a hoonert mile fun annonner sin—so ainer, os pro-weert het de leit so saucha weis maucha, hetta se aw ins norra house gadu.

Awer, doh sin mer now. Mer kenna all sell du, un noch feel mainer. Eb mer awer om end feel besser laiva con ich net exactly sawga. Denk amohl drau, in de olta tzeita hut mer'n whiskey jigger kawfa kenna for drei cent; heit kushts tzain cent yusht for 's common shtuft ous'm Kitzelderfer si shwartzzy buttle. Sellamohls hut mer'n cent batzawlt for feer cigars; heitich dawgs kusht ea cigar finf cent. Un so wars sheer mit ollas soonst. De leit waura sellamohls shpawrsom, awer se hen doch goot galaib'd, un waura goot tzufridda. Ainer os finf daussend dawler waerd property g'aignt hut war'n reicher mon considered. Der bauer's dawg lainer os regular g'shafft hut for fartsich cent der dawg un si kusht hut geld ganunk safa kenna in sex odder sivva yohr for'n bauerei kawfa un a pawr hoonert druf batzawla. Un de leit era parlors sellamohls waura im grandshta shtyle uf g'fixed mit roat un gail shtraifich loompa carpet, 'n shpiggle-glaws im a mahogany frame, 'n holb dootzend shteel, 'n feer eckicher huls uffa, un aw'n plotz im eck fum parlor for's shpinrawd un der hoshpel.

Un se hen ols'n coryoser waig g'hot for deala mit ras-cals un deeb. Wann se ols so ainer ferwisht hen, om ba-treega odder shtaila, don hen se'n grawd in de jail g'shteckd. Awer heitich dawgs du'n se for common de shmartshta deeb in de grossa offissa ni'lecta, un yusht so karls os olta hussa, odder'n shtick flaish un so sauch shtaila cooma in de jail.

Es war in de olta tzeita we unser foreeltra fun Deitsh-lond in Pennsylvania aw galand sin, un according tzu a dale leit, noch gor in unsera dawga, sin de Deitsha leit dick-keppich, grose-feesich, dumm un dobbich. Well, now, is sell wohr? For now ous finna we dumm un dobbich os de Pennsylvania Deitsha sin, travel amohl dorrich so counties we Lenkeshter, Lebanon, Barricks, Lechaw, Northampton, Yorrick un onnera fun der same awrt, un du finnsht ivverall de beshta bauereia, mit goota pushta fensa, grossa Schweitzer sheira, first rata geil, fetty uxa, shainy, shmarta un g'sunta weibsleit, un frisha un fetta bubbalin; shtup on anes fun so pletz un ich insures os du grawd derhame feelsht unner Deitsha leit. Wann's mid-dawg is, haists, "coom, huck dich doh on der dish un ess mit; nems we mer's hen; helf der selwer on si net blaid." Dort uf sellam dish is fun beshta flaish, longa un frisha brodwærsht, un sheer olles goots os mer denka con. Es is evva'n rale Deitshes middawg essa, un es nemmd ame net long for ousfinna os de dumma un dobbicha Deitsha anyhow wissa we mer goot, airlich un monneerlich laibt uf'm beshta lond in der gonsa welt.

Awer, we is mit de ivver ous shmarta leit os yusht English shwetza? Un wo wohna se? Ei, marshtens on

so pletz os we drunna in der Jrsey, wo der drooka sond sex tzull deaf is in der midda shtrose; wo de shtawka fensa um tzomma fowla sin; wo de beshta corps os se raisa kenna is wull-kraut, dishtla, wockashtæ un huckelbaira hecka; wo era live shtock is marshtens possams, nauchteila, rossle-shlonga un de sei so mawger os se knep in era shwens binna missa os se net unner der deer ins wohnhouse ni shloopa keena. In so umgaigenda finnd mer gor kæ dumma odder dobbicha Deitsha. Dort sin se hoch awrtich, un shmart, un shwetza English. Awer ich, for my dale, bin g'satisfied mit 'em Pennsylvania Deitsha waig dorrich de welt tzu travella. Ich bin's net yusht agreed awer ich mus confessa os es mich ols noch gor a winnich hoch-meetich feela maucht wan'n ormer, mit-leidicher, holb ferhoongerter dude mer's fore shmeist os ich nix bin os yusht'n commoner Pennsylvania Deitsher.

Then was read the following paper, by Col. T. C. Zimmerman, of Reading, entitled

“PURITAN AND CAVALIER? WHY NOT THE PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN?”

In looking over the list of those selected to speak at this meeting, and realizing the discomfoting fact that the words of Mercury are harsh after the songs of Apollo, it was with a good deal of misgiving that I accepted the invitation of your Committee to say anything here to-day. Nor could I quite understand the purport of this invitation, unless it was intended that my remarks should add dryness to the otherwise sparkling excellence of a tempting literary feast. If, therefore, what follows



herewith should suggest only a mere passing whiff of that fleeting, fragrant quality of dryness which imparts to the enlivening virtues of champagne its chief zest, I shall be satisfied.

Be this as it may, I hope it may go better with you than it once did with Abraham Lincoln, after he had been shaken up in his boat in a storm in Chesapeake Bay. When he complained of the feeling of gastronomic uncertainty which one suffers on the water, a young staff officer rushed up to him with a bottle of extra dry champagne and said: "This is the cure for that sort of an ill." To which the President made answer: "No, young man, I have seen too many fellows seasick ashore from drinking that very article."

That we may successfully transmit the historic memories of our forefathers, and preserve their traditions and records—just as Greece, in letters, "laid her hands to transmit an Apostolic succession of memory on the bowed and studious head of the modern world"—such, I understand, is the purpose of this meeting.

An organization with such an end in view, cannot fail to rescue from oblivion many precious memories. Just as literature is the immortality of speech, so will the collection and preservation of swiftly-receding and nearly-forgotten events be imbued with an imperishable life. In this way will be recalled the pride and glory of our ancestral virtues, and the records of as good a people as ever grappled with the hosts of Cæsar, and marched under the banner that threw its shadow over thrones and armies, be saved.



Years ago—so goes the story—a Marshal of France was sneered at by the haughty nobles of Vienna, who, boasting of their long line of descent, refused to associate with him because of his humble origin, when he said: “I am an ancestor; you are only descendants.” No such ignoble pride pervades the Pennsylvania-Germans of to-day. As descendants of a class of early immigrants whose achievements, although quite as important as those of their more self-assertive brethren, we stand here proud of our ancestry, humble, patient, unobtrusive though it may have been.

It is not, however, a one-sided racial egotism that seeks expression here to-day—no assertion of self-superiority vaunting its vanity before the world. Nor is the occasion of this gathering due to a re-kindling of the spirit of liberty that had its inspiration in the patriotic heart of Germany, which centuries ago rushed forth out of the deep repose of its woods like the breath of thunder, and, amid its revealed lightnings, lit up the popular heart with an ardor touched as by Promethean fire. It is, rather, the recognition, in a formal way, of the work of our forefathers as a formative force in the upbuilding of our national system.

The descendants of the Cavalier and Puritan, of the Huguenot and Netherlander, with engaging gallantry and fervid eloquence, in their effort to preserve a sort of historical equilibrium, never grow weary in telling the story of their virtues. Apropos, May 16, 1891, a Scotch-Irish Congress will assemble at Louisville, Ky., with a view no doubt to effect a permanent organization of this brave,

shrewd, sturdy, liberty-loving people. It may be gratifying to know that our own State will be well represented there. The descendants of this noble lineage, and of the Puritan and Cavalier, the Huguenot and Netherlander, fully realize, as they should, that great deeds cannot die—that they live in the forms and in the language which centuries cannot efface. As with our own ancestry, they came to this country “like a dawn, wherein a beam had slanted forward, falling in a land of promise, whose fruit would follow.”

For almost the first time, in a systematic way, the Pennsylvania-German is demanding recognition for the part he took in the great national drama. And what an important service he rendered in laying the foundations of this Commonwealth. Said a brother editor of this city in his paper recently: “The Scotch-Irish influence has been stamped indelibly on our institutions and the fierce mastery of law, organization and nature. But the German—philosophic, calm, brave and patient—has been building noble and imperishable the superstructure of our greatness upon the foundations of the forefathers.”

Cradled into freedom by hated injustice, and richly dowered with conscience and the sterner virtues of civilization, our forefathers naturally became a liberty-loving and Christian people. Their earnest and hopeful spirit, in full sympathy with the upswelling tide which marked the triumphs of humanity, were in fierce contrast with the spirit of languor which finds its chief satisfaction in the pursuit of pleasures that either cloy with their sweets or elude possession as soon as grasped.

And where, let me ask, is there a worthier people? No golden visions haunt their healthy sleep, nor do they have day-dreams of fortunes made by doing nothing. With their sturdy character, modest demeanor, and good, quiet citizenship; making progress in every path of life; with their simple tastes, and contempt for all forms of ostentation and extravagance; with candor, honesty and fair dealing as the foundations of their success in life, what need of rhetorical artifice in depicting the full-rounded manhood of these people. They are of a kind in whose estimation almost any honest employment is more respectable than idleness or ignoble ease.

As with the German immigrant of to-day, so with the Germans who settled in Pennsylvania in the early days of this country. They did not look upon the United States as an El Dorado, but as the best country under heaven for a man or woman willing to work, and Germans are workers. They had heard of this new country, with its promise of fertility and loveliness and enduring treasures. It was to them a sort of Elysium which had long been prefigured in the chambers of a delighted expectancy.

Filled with high hopes and aglow with a restless energy, the lives and destinies of these people, which at home had been hardened under years of severe discipline and surrounded with scenes of disappointment and joyless stagnation, were upon reaching our shores lifted into the light where "paradise found its fancied parallels;" where the earliest glimpses of this fair land must have been to them like the influence of the premonition of a first passion when

“Every bird of Eden bursts  
In carol, every bud in flower.”

Typical as was the serene and wholesome life of our forefathers when they came over to this country, the same pacific conditions are observable in much of the life of their descendants throughout Eastern Pennsylvania to-day. What a picture of sweet content it that described by Whittier in “The Pennsylvania Pilgrim,” where he says of Pastorius:

Glad even to tears he heard the robin sing  
His song of welcome to the western spring,  
And the blue-bird borrowing from the sky his wing.  
And when the miracle of autumn came,  
And all the woods with many-colored flame  
Of splendor, making summer's greenness tame,  
Burned unconsumed, a voice without a sound  
Spoke to him from each kindled bush around,  
And made the strange, new landscape holy ground!

\* \* \* \* \*

Who knows what goadings in their sterner way  
O'er jagged ice, relieved by granite gray,  
Blew round the men of Massachusetts Bay?  
What hate of heresy the east wind woke?  
What hints of pitiless power and terror spoke  
In waves that on their iron coast-line broke?

Be it as it may; within the land of Penn  
The sectary yielded to the citizen,  
And peaceful dwelt the many-creeded men.

Hegel was undoubtedly right in declaring that the German spirit is the spirit of the new world. As early as 1790, when the total population of Pennsylvania did not exceed 435,000 there were already 145,000 Germans.

It is estimated that from this stock have sprung descendants in this State to the number of 1,200,000, and that within the past seventy years about 4,600,000 German immigrants have come to this country—as some one aptly puts it—“every man of them with four hands.” They came from every part of Germany and Austria, and they were of all trades except those of gentleman, idler and tramp.

What their influence on the wealth, the development, and progress of this country is, it is impossible to estimate. It, however, forms no inconsiderable part, and as to the future, in the language of Andrew D. White, formerly United States Minister to Germany, “the healthful element of German thought will aid powerfully in evolving a future for this land purer in its politics, nobler in its conception of life, more beautiful in the bloom of art, more precious in the fruitage of character.”

This tide of immigration continues with unabated flow. Indeed, owing to the abnormal movement of German population to this country, agricultural workers have become so scarce in Germany as to greatly alarm many sagacious German economists. This fact will be the more apparent when it is learned that during the past year the German Government established a newspaper whose motive is the diminution of emigration and the exploitation of the colonies. So eager are the people to emigrate (I quote from an official report to our State Department) “that men walk 100 miles by devious and obscure routes and by-ways to escape the Austrian gendarmes and to find some road that leads to the United States.” “All roads no lon-

ger lead to Rome," says this official, "but all highways and seaways lead to America." He adds: "No one who has lived awhile in the German countryside but feels anew the conviction that in patient and painstaking industry, thrift, and the serious character which is anti-revolutionary and truly civic, the Germans are the most admirable people on the continent of Europe."

In many portions of our own State the descendants of the Pennsylvania-German settlers are to-day the central influence and impelling power of a large proportion of the industrial, commercial, educational and agricultural activities. They are not only on your farms and in your workshops, but at your bars, in your pulpits, in your colleges, on your newspapers. They have become teachers, professors, scientists, Judges, Senators, Congressmen, Governors—aye, in every calling in life, be it high or low, you will find a brilliant array of men—descendants of ancestors who not only made this portion of the State so rich in historic reminiscence and its people so tolerant of religion, but who laid deep the foundations of a stable and enduring prosperity.

Look whereso'er you may, you will find well-nigh countless evidences of German genius and German skill, while along almost every artery of trade are felt the quickening currents of German life. The Germans gave to this country much of the religious conscience that pervades the community. They were the first in America to protest against human slavery. They printed the first edition of the Holy Bible in this country. They issued the first work on the philosophy of teaching. At Ephrata



they made all their own materials, possessed their own plant of paper mill, type foundry and bindery. The colonial army was organized by Von Steuben, a German. Washington's body-guard of fifty-seven men were Germans. The drill-masters of the Continentals were Germans. The bloodiest battle of the Revolution, for the numbers engaged, was fought at Oriskany, N. Y., by the Palatine Germans, headed by Nicholas Herkimer, a German. The preaching and social and personal influence of the Pennsylvania-Germans—led off by Washington's baker-general, Ludwig—did more to decimate by desertion, and weaken by enlightenment the ranks of the Hessians, than all the infantry bullets or artillery balls of militia and Continentals, or the accidents or sickness of war. German and Swiss industries opened the forests of Eastern Tennessee. In Northern Louisiana German and Alsatian settlers were found as early as the time of Louis XV. A German Marylander, Johann Lederer, was the first to explore, in 1669, the country west of the Alleghenies. A German made the first adequate map of Maryland and Virginia. John Zenger, a German printer of New York, was the father of the liberty of the press of this country. The two Conrad Weisers, father and son, were the first interpreters of the Indians. Gen. Muhlenberg, of Revolutionary fame, who was afterwards the first Speaker of Congress, and his illustrious sire, were Germans. A German-American, J. L. Hassler, created our coast survey. Two Germans, the Roeblings, father and son, planned and set into execution the great Brooklyn bridge. The iron railroad bridges, which span the ravines and rivers of this



continent, were the invention of Wendell Bollman, a German of Baltimore. The father of the canning industry was a German, Willian Numsen, of the same city.

While all this is true and something to be proud of, but little can be said in favor of the perpetuation of the Pennsylvania-German dialect. In other words, notwithstanding the extraordinary vitality of the vernacular, which has survived the wreck of centuries, there need be no undue solicitude about its gradual, but ultimate disappearance from the languages of the earth. Its somewhat limited capabilities have been fully tested by Harbaugh, Horne, Fisher, Rauch and others, all of whose writings show that while the dialect is ample for the ordinary needs of expression, from its inherent limitations it lacks compass and flexibility. But the compulsory teaching of English in our public schools must eventually displace it as a medium of intercourse, even in this section where its lodgment has been so deep-seated and its use so general.

While I yield to none in reverence for the associations of childhood—and the Pennsylvania-German dialect is interwoven with every warp and woof of my early days—and while admitting the value of the vernacular as a help to the understanding of the pure German, with opportunities for appropriating something from its storehouse filled with treasures of human intelligence, it is not a growing indifference to its merits which prompts me to say that, in the category of living tongues, it should take its place as a purely secondary lingual accomplishment.

Tenacious as its life has been, it cannot, of course, lay even the shadow of a claim, as can the dead language of Rome, which exists only by sufferance in the liturgy of an ancient faith, to be "the voice of Empire and of Law, of War and of State; breathing the maxims of the world and not the tenets of the schools;" nor yet like that of Greece, which "speaks to the ear like Italian, to the mind like English;" but it has proved itself good enough for the social and business intercourse of millions of people for hundreds of years.

And now, before closing, I may be permitted to express the hope that in the temple of Good Fellowship the Pennsylvania-German will hereafter take his seat as an honored guest between his more pretentious brethern, the Puritan and the Cavalier. He has been content, heretofore, with a mere passing glimpse of its portals, better satisfied to leave to others the seductive pleasures of the feast, with its tempting viands, its solid comforts, the soothing swirl of its music and all the cognate fascinations of the entertainment, while withdrawing himself to the "sweet silence of restful solitude."

Looking back we see, or seem to see, an ethereal bridge spanning the centuries—one of its approaches supported by the golden traditions and precious memories of a noble ancestry; the other resting upon the deep-laid foundation of an undying reverence and affection of a grateful progeny. Generations of dear ones are clasped in loving embrace across the shadowy structure, and the clasp starts an impulse that is felt along the line of the departed years. Although the farther shore is dim, yet across "the

pulsing stream there are lines of light" by the aid of which the imagination may behold the sainted splendor of sacred shrines whereat our forefathers syllabled their hopes and fears in prayerful petitions, and fond fancy linger lovingly for a little while upon the parental nest where patriotism and valor and all the domestic virtues were tenderly nurtured, and where frugality, honesty and sweet content had their habitation.

Better and far more sacred than "the glowing purple of Tyre, the gold of the Ark, the sapphire and ruby of Persia, the unforgotten spoils of ruined Babylon, that tinged the reveries of the early Christians as they slept in the dens of amphitheatres, waiting death," are the sainted memories of our forefathers, for the successful transmission of which we have organized this day.

May the mellow music of those golden memories, like redolent breathings from some rarer world, sweep with its invisible fingers over every heart-string, until each responsive chord becomes vibrant with the voluptuous swell as of some divine melody.

On motion the Convention adjourned until 1:30 o'clock.

## AFTERNOON SESSION, 1:30 o'CLOCK.

The Convention was called to order by the President, the Hon. George F. Baer, who introduced H. L. Fisher, Esq., of York, Pa., who read the following poems, under the general title of

## "AUSWAHLEN DER ALTE ZEITE."

## AUS "D'E ALTE ZEITE."

Ihr Pennsylvanisch-deutsche Leut,  
Ihr brauchet euch net schämme,  
Juscht loss der Englisch euch auslache,  
Mit seine hoochgelerndte Sache—

Er lernd euch a'h noch könne;  
Un's isch en Lerning, net in Bücher,  
Wan net so hooch, doch juscht so sicher.

Wu schtammt der *Anglo-Saxon* heer?

Wer leese kan der wees';  
Du maagscht's rum drehe wie du wit,  
Du kanscht nix annerscht mache mit,  
Es isch en Deutscher Käs (case);  
Saag was du wit, des isch die Lehr—  
Fom Sachsische, dort schtammt er heer.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mer kan's ah sene üwerall—

Maag hi' geh wu mer will,  
Doch sehn'd mer ken so Bauerei',  
Ken Leut meh ehrlich, braaf, un frei,  
Un fleisig, doch, so schtill:  
Sie schtehn for's Recht as wie en Mauer—  
Die Pennsylvanisch-deutsche Bauer'.

Sie waare fon de erschte *Settler*  
In unser'm schöne Land;  
Sie hen a'h for die Freiheit g'fochte,  
Noch allemol, un könne's noch dhu—  
Sie sin ihr Recht bekann't;  
Un wer sei eg'ne *Business* meind,  
Der find bei dene Leut fiel Freund.

Die Wohret isch net all gedruckt—  
Die Hälft isch noch net g'schriwwe;  
Wie kummt's das aus de Folks-geschichte,  
Un aus de Englische Gedichte,  
Die Deutsche sin gebliwwe?  
Hen sie net for die Freiheit g'schritte?  
Was hen sie net for's Land gelitte!

Ich könnt fiel Deutsche Naame nenne,  
Fon braaf, achtbaare Leut;  
Fiel waare, wol, net do gebore,  
Doch hen fiel alles do ferlore  
For Unabhängigkeit;  
Un net so fiel as wie sie heese  
Kanscht uf a Dutzend Graabschte leese.

Ihr uralt, Deutsche *Pioneer*  
Fon manchem Berg un Dhaal—  
Die ungeborene Geschlechte  
Errichte, endlich, eure Rechte—  
Dauert's lang, doch kummt's amol:  
In manchem unbekannte Graab  
Schlooft eure lang-fersäumte Schtaab!

Es Unrecht isch, jedoch, so schweer  
 As mer's fertraaga kann;  
 Doch hoffe mir es kummt e' Zeit—  
 Fon uns, zwar, isch sie net meh weit—  
 Kummt alles an der Mann;  
 Es Recht bleibt oftmols lang fon Haus,  
 Doch bleibt's ah, nimmer ewig aus.  
 \* \* \* \* \*

Ich bin schun rum gatravelt, fiel,  
 Annere Länder sehne;  
 Ich waar schun Nort, Sout, East un West,  
 Doch welle Landschaft gleich ich's besch?  
 'S isch schö alt Pennsylvani '—  
 In Pennsylvanisch muss ich schreiwe—  
 In Pennsylvani will ich bleiwe.

E' dhel Leut mache juscht en Schpott  
 Fon Pennsylvanisch Deutsch;  
 'Sisch net weert meindes, un warum?  
 Ei juscht for das, sie sin zu dumm—  
 'Sisch juscht ihr Lappigkeit;  
 Sie saaga 'sisch fermixt, un lache—  
 Ei, so sin all die beschte Sache.

Es isch ken Schprooch in dere Welt  
 Wie Pennsylvanisch Deutsch;  
 For alle Wort kummt fon 'em Herz,  
 Un's hot meh Pfeffer, Salz un Querz—  
 Ferloss dich druf, es schneid;  
 Wan's Mädél em net will, ferschteh,  
 Dan saagt's es schrecklich Wörtli, "Ne!"

Un's geht em besser fon der Zung

As Englisch—*don't you see?*

In Englisch saage sie, "*O, yes,*"

Un ebmols saage sie, "*I guess,*"

Un ebmols, "*Yes siree,*"

Doch isch ken Wort das bindt in *Law*,

Wie's Pennsylvanisch-deutsch-wort, "*Jah!*"

(Die Englische, die, hasse "*Schläng*"—

Ferloss dich druf—" *you bet;*"

'Sisch all N. G., oder "*all played out;*"

'Sisch "*in the soup,*" oder "*up the spout,*"

Un ebmol's isch's, "*you git,*"

"*Soft snap,*" "*too thin,*" oder all "*O. K.*"

En "*kid,*" "*dead beat,*" un—u s w.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Es war, for alters, so der Weg,

In so'm'e Deutsche Eck,—

D'r Parre a'h Schul-Meeschter war,

Un's Schul-Haus fon d'r Kerich war

Gewiss net weit eweck;

Un dort war a'h's alt Parre-haus,

Ken fertel Meil meh' weiter draus.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sel alt Schul-haus fergess ich nie,

Es kummt m'r immer nooch,

Juscht wie mei Schadde in d'r Sun,

Den ich net hinnerlosse kan,

So kummt's m'r immer nooch;

'S geht immer mit m'r wu ich geh,

'S schteht immer bei m'r we ich schteht.



\* \* \* \* \*

Es war ken Thurn un a'h ken Glock  
 Uf seller alte Kerich;  
 Es war ken Orgel un ken *Choir*,  
 Ken Bass-geig, Cymbel, un ken Leier;  
 Doch, dorch den alte Berg—  
 Dorch Kerich un Berg un Keschte-wald  
 Hen hunnert Schtimm, wie e'ne, g'schallt.

\* \* \* \* \*

O was'n schöne alte Kerich,  
 Un was'n Gottes-dinscht!  
 Die Kanzel war hooch drowe fescht  
 Gebaut, fiel wie'n Schwalme-nescht,  
 So wie die Neschter finscht;  
 Un weescht du noch, was war dort owe?  
 'N Schall-bret, noch fiel höher drowe.

Ich sehn d'r Parre uf d'r Kanzel,  
 Ich heer'n's Lied for-leese;  
 D'r alt For-singer bassd uf—scharf;  
 Ich heer sei Schtimm—wie David's Harf—  
 Was anner's kan ich's heese?  
 Ich heer sie singe aus dem alte—  
 "Wer nur den liebe' Gott lässt walte."

\* \* \* \* \*

Ich bin dojetz 'mol widder z'rück  
 Mei alte Heemet sehne;  
 Es guckt gar nimme wie's als hot—  
 Die alt Bekante sin all fort,  
 Mei Age sin foll Träne;  
 Ich ruuf un froog, "Wu sin sie all?"  
 D'r Schall antwort, "Wu sin sie all?"

E' dhel sin weit fort Owenaus,  
    Weit, weit, fom alte Heerd;  
E' Paar, so alte, sin noch do,  
Un die sin krumm-un-schöp un groh,  
    Un fiel sin in d'r Erd;  
Ihr Alter, un a'h wie sie heese,  
Kanscht uf de Schtee im Kerich-hoof leese.

Dort unne am Berg, dort war die Schpring,  
    We helle Wässere quelle—  
Dort wu die alte Weide schtehne—  
Wie oft hawich mei G'sicht drin g'sehne!  
    Un a'h en Drup Forälle;  
Sel Wasser war doch's aller-bescht—  
Wie oft hawich mei Dorscht mit g'löscht!

Ach! wu isch nau sel alt Wohn-haus,  
    Wu ich gebore war?  
Es war gebaut fon b'schlaag'ne Blöck,  
'S war krumm-un-grad in alle Eck—  
    So Häus-er sin nau rahr—  
Die alte Blöck hen sie ferseeg't  
For *Schleepers*, unner'n Riegelweeg.

D'r bescht Blatz in d'r ganse Welt,  
    D'r ruhigscht un d'r süscht—  
D'r Blatz wu Kummer net hi' kummt  
Wan Winter-wind im Schornschte brummt,  
    Un's Wetter noch so wiescht—  
War dort im alte Schornschte-eck,  
Bei'm Feier g'macht fon *Hick'*ri-blöck.

Was *Schtories* hen m'r dort ferzählt  
 So bei d'r Winters-nach!

Was war's, doch, als'n grosse Freed,  
 So bei de Buwe un de Mä—

Was hen m'r doch als g'lacht!  
 Un schöne Lieder hen m'r g'sunge,  
 Bis Küch un Schornschte hen geklunge.

Un O! was *Cider* hen m'r g'hat—

Frisch aus'm Fasz gezoge;  
 Un wan m'r's Feier hen ufg'schtarrt,  
 Dan sin 'n dausend Funke fort,  
 D'r Schornschte nuf gefloge;  
 En Blick, lewendig—ewig aus—  
 Dan schwarz un dood, zum Schornschte naus.

Der Schornschte war fon Schte gebaut,  
 Am alte Giwel-end;  
 Un wie ich schon zu-for hab g'saad,  
 In alle Eck war's krumm-un-graad—  
 So wars, dan, juscht-amend;  
 Un seller Schornschte schteht noch dort,  
 Doch, alles sunscht isch schon lang fort.

Dort schteht'r wie'n *Monument*

Fon was e'mol dor war;  
 Der alt Familia Feier-heerd!  
 Wer hot dan net fon dem schon g'hörd,  
 Un wie's e'mol dort war?  
 Dort schteht der Schornschte, gans allee,  
 Un mag noch man'che Johr dort schteh.

Er schteht dort hinner'm neue Haus,  
 Un alles klohr drum'rum;  
 Der Schmook kummt nimme ower aus,  
 Un's Feier am Heerd isch schon lang aus,  
 Un all isch schtill-un-schtumm;  
 Juscht e' Schtimm hawich dort, noch, g'hörd—  
 E' Kricks im alte Feier-heerd.

Was guckt's doch alles annerscht jetz  
 As in d'r alte Zeit;  
 Ach! wu is'ch nau sel alt' Gebäu?  
 'S isch alles fort, 's isch alles neu,  
 Ich sehn's, jo, schon, fon Weit';  
 En schöne Heemet, sel isch's a'h,  
 Doch heemelt's mich gar nimme a'.

D'r Wasser huckt a'h nimme dort  
 Im Hoof, am alte Haus;—  
 Dort unner de alte Schaddebäm—  
 Er gautz m'r nimme *welcome*-heem,  
 En fremder Hund, der, gautz't;  
 'S guckt alles schö, sel wees ich wol,  
 Doch warum isch mei Herz so foll?

Jah, Haus un Scheur un Hoof sin neu—  
 Die Blume un die Bäm;  
 Wu sin die alte Pappel-bäm?  
 Weil doch die *Weide* noch dort schtehn,  
 Guckt's wenig, noch, wie Heem;  
 Die Rose-schtöck am Garde-zau—  
 Wu sin sie, jah, wu sin sie nau?

Es Bloos-horn hört m'r nimme dort—

Was war d'r Schall so hell!

Was hänkt dan, *nau*, dort uf'm Dach?

Ich wees nut heil ich, odder lach—

Ich glaab doch 's isch 'n *Bell*!

'S guckt *schtylisch* so, mit *Bell* and Thurn,

Doch hänkt mei Herz im alte Horn.

Wu isch die gross alt *Cider-press*,

Die Flax-brech un's Schpinn-raad?

D'r Hashchpel un d'r Wickelschtock,

Die Deutsch Sens un d'r Dengel-Schtock,

Un's alt Deutsch-sense-g'maad?

Ich ruf un frog, Wu sin sie all?

D'r Schall antwort, "Wu sin sie all?"

Dan geh ich uf d'r Schpeicher, nuf—

Ferschlup mich im'n Eck,

Dort unner sellem alte Dach,

Umringt mit all dem alte Sach—

Die *Bonnert* un die Röck

Un schtell m'r's foor so deutlich, Heut,

Juscht graad wie's war in alter Zeit.

Dort an de Schparre hänke fiel

So alt f'rgess'ne Sache;

Dort hänke Sichel, Schwert un Sens,

Un Säck foll Federe aus de Gäns,

For Federe-decke mache;

Un noch e'bissel weiter hinne,

Hänkt Woll un Flax un wart for's schpinne.

Dort hänkt's Hufeise's aller-höchst,  
Un unned'ra die Flind;  
Un was schteht hinne 'm alte *Drawer*?  
Die Wieg, wu ich drin g'schoekelt war—  
En hülflos, selig Kind;  
Ach! könnt mer nau so selig sei,  
Fon Kummer un fon Sinde frei!

Dort sin die Katze uf d'r Wacht—  
Un was'n' Schtang-foll Wörscht!  
Dort isch d'r alt Schtroh-ime-Korb,  
Un's Sood-welsh-korn, mit goldne Farb,  
Un ah, en Gärbli Gerscht;  
Un üwerhaupt, die Kräuter-sache—  
Ich traam! ich wach! un heer mich lache!

Die Uhr, die, isch bal nunnerg'loffe,  
Doch geht sie—*tick, tick, tick*;  
Die Zeit—an's Wasser, g'maand mich fiel—  
Juscht e' mol geht sie dorch die Mühl—  
Kummt ewig-nimme z'rück;  
Ach Gott! wie schnell geht doch die Zeit  
Un tragt uns in die Ewigkeit!

Es war ken schönere' Heemet g'weset  
In sellem schöne Dhal;  
Ach! wan ich dort daheem könnt sei,  
Wär widder jung, wohluf, un frei,  
So wie ich e'mol war!  
Uf Erde kan nix besser's sei,  
As jung, daheem, wohluf un frei.

Es isch en Haus net g'macht mit Händ,  
 Dort, ewig in d'r Höh;  
 Ach, wan ich dort daheem kan sei,  
 Glück-selig—sind un kummer-frei—  
 Wie herlich un wie schö!  
 Dort isch ken Erwet meh zu dhu,  
 In jener ungeschtürte Ruh.

Fater un Mutter wohne dort,  
 Uf selle schöne Hügel;  
*Sie* leest im Wahre Chrischte-thum,  
 Un beet das ich doch a'h bal kum,  
 Un *er* leest in d'r Biwel;  
 So hen sie g'lese un gebeet  
 Im alta Haus, wu nimme scheht.

Dort sin die Buwe un die Mäd—  
 Im Himmel, dort—wie fiel!  
 All widder ledig, frei un froh,  
 'S isch fiel wei's als daheem war do,  
 Mit Erwet un geschpiel;  
 Sie schpiele nau uf goldne Harfe,  
 Un alles irdisch isch ferworfe.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ich hab schon oft es Heemweh g'hat,—  
 Un hab's a'h alleweil;  
 Un wan ich for d'r Doctro schick,  
 Dan, glaw-ich das ich's ärger grig,  
 Un huck mich hi un heil;  
 Ach! was dhut doch mei Herz so weh?  
 Un's bat nix bis ich heem-zus geh!



DAS VATERLAND AM RHEIN.

Glaub mir mein Freund, ich geb' kein Tand  
Für Liedge oder G'sang,  
Das mir nicht ruf't aus Vaterland,  
Mit Sanftem Heimaths-klang;  
Und giebt nicht z'rück das Jugend-blut,  
Und Herzensonnenschein—  
Da ich war frisch und frei im Muth,  
Im Vaterland am Rhein.

Bevor mir war die freie Welt—  
Der Weg war weit und breit,  
Und ich war g'sund und stark im Feld,  
In jener guten Zeit;  
Umsonst war Ehr und Ruhm zu mir,  
Und Reichthum aller Erd—  
Mit meiner liebe Julia, hier,  
Was wär'n sie alle werth?

Damals war alles süsz und neu  
Im frölichem Gemueth;  
Gesundheit, Stärk und Kraft war'n mein  
Im Geist und jedem Glied:  
Als wie ein Hirsch, schnell in der Flucht,  
Wan's G'wehr dahinten knallt—  
Ja, wei ein Hirsch, wan Man ihn sucht,  
Und Walt mit Schreien schallt.

Wie wohl, wie frei, wie leicht von Herz,  
Da sie noch bei mir war!  
Mein liebe Julia! wo war Schmerz  
Und wo war Angst und G'fahr?

König war ich, sie Königin  
Um unseren Heimaths Herd;  
Ach Freund, verzeih' mir Wein und Thrän—  
Mit ihr ging Freud von Erd!

Den Säbel-schnitt auf meiner Stirn  
Hat sie mit Weh betracht—  
Und's andere Theil von meinem Bein  
Ging in der Sedan Schlacht;  
Doch leicht die Wunden, und gelind—  
Nur kurz ihr höchster Schmerz—  
Die wehsten Wunden, immer, sind  
Die Wunden an dem Herz!

“Ich tret in's traute Sübchen ein,  
Zu liebes Weib und Kind,  
Da kamen sie zu springen, bei,  
Und küssen mich, geschwindt;  
Ich nahm das Kleine auf den Arm  
Und drück't es an die Brust,  
Und Küss des Mündchen öftersmal  
Mit wahrer Herzenslust.”

“Was war auf Erde, noch, so schön—  
Was noch so honigsüsz!  
Als Heimath, liebes Weib und Kind—  
Das war mein Paradies!  
Obschon, ich war nicht reich beschenk  
Mit Ehr und gold'nes Werth,  
Mein Heimath, Weib, und liebes Kind—  
Mein Himmel auf der Erd.”

Ein armer Wand'rer bin ich, hier,  
    Und oftmals schwer die Noth;  
Oft weh und einsam ist es mir—  
    Denn, Weib und Kind sind tod!  
So singe ich das Trauerlied —  
    Ein Sehnsucht drück't mich sehr,  
Und in mei'm Herz schläft Weib un Kind,  
    Wie Perlen tief im Meer!

Obschon ich wander hier, herum  
    In diesem schöne Land,  
Mein Herz geht immer heimzus und  
    Es leb't an jenem Rand;  
Es leb't nur wo mein liebe 'sind—  
    Dort ist mein Herzens-schrein,  
Am Grabe meines Weib und Kind,  
    Im Vaterland am Rhein.

Glaub mir, mein Freund, ich geb' kein Tand  
    Für Liedge oder G'sang,  
Das mir nicht ruft aus Vaterland  
    Mit sanftem Heimaths-klang.  
Und giebt nicht z'rück das Jugend-blut  
    Und Herzensonnenschein,  
Da ich war frisch und frei im Muth  
    Im Vaterland am Rhein.

After the reading, the Convention was entertained by several selections sung by the Franklin and Marshall College Glee Club.

The Rev. C. Z. Weiser, D.D., of East Greenville, Montgomery County, was next introduced, and delivered the following address on

“THE PENNSYLVANIA-GERMANS IN CHURCH AND STATE.”  
*My Pennsylvania-German Brothers:*

It is written that God made of one blood all nations of men, and appointed them their times and habitations. Under so universal a charter the Pennsylvania-Germans are surely embraced. Though not an original nation they are still a people—a “peculiar people.”

Our ancestors had been Germans—European Germans. Our sires emerged from the Palatinate, from Switzerland, from Holland, from Saxony, from Suabi, from every province and principality in the Fatherland.

Their emigration occurred two full centuries ago—about one hundred years later than that of the English, the Scotch, the Welsh and the Irish.

Among their new neighbors, they were likewise known as Germans, pure and simple. Penn's broad and liberal views rendered his Commonwealth the central point of emigration. Hence, the name of his Commonwealth became the name of the people.

The patronymic, “Pennsylvania-Germans,” attached itself to their American born offspring, as the term “Creole” affixed itself to the descendants of Spanish blood, who were born outside of Spain. Accordingly, John Key, who was the first born child of European parents, in Pennsylvania, is the first Pennsylvania-German, 1682, in Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania-Germans are not confined to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Let it be remembered they are to be found in every state in the Union, nor do all Pennsylvania-Germans speak the German language, Many cannot utter a German word, and many more can, but do not wish you to know it. But as St. Peter was detected by the servants and menials about the palace in Jerusalem, though he did his utmost to hide his rough Galilean dialect, even so does their speech betray them.

It is not their nativity nor their language, however, that constitutes a thoroughbred Pennsylvania-German. A witty Irishman protested against being a horse, though he had been born in a stable. Whether born within or without Pennsylvania, and whether he says "Sibboleth" or "Shibboleth," is not decisive. He is a genuine member of our kith and kin, in whose veins Germanic blood courses. "Blood will tell" of what manner of spirit you are. As there are *white* blackbirds and *white* Negroes, so are there Pennsylvania-Germans, who have never set foot on Pennsylvania-German soil or known the German tongue.

We may say that a double-edged sword, as it were, carved the Pennsylvania-Germans into a *sui generis* people, out of the lump of humanity on both sides of the Atlantic. On the one side, the long winded wars in the Fatherland dried the stream of emigration; men and means ceased to flow into the lap of the colonies; the fostering care of motherly Holland, of the Palatinate, of Switzerland, and of all the Provinces was forestalled; the bonds of civil and ecclesiastical government were sun-

dered; and the child became an orphan—like Melchisa-deck, “without father or mother.” On this side of the waters, a like process of isolation from their surroundings set in. The Revolution came down upon the colonies like night; the vernacular of our forefathers excluded them from the English neighbors and contemporaries; national rivalry and tribal jealousy were inflamed; complaints became loud; alienation, separation and stagnation ensued.

Sundered in this way, on the right hand and on the left, the Pennsylvanians were driven back upon themselves; the continuity of type was broken; a higher kind or a lower kind, or, to say the least, a different kind, resulted. A dark day it was for our ancestors. So dark, that a certain writer says, the “race of eagles degenerated into a brood of owls.” In two directions, nevertheless, the Pennsylvania-Germans remained loyal and true to the traditions of their forefathers. They held fast to their ancestral *Religiosity* and their *Schoolcraft*.

The primitive German emigrants had been members of the Christian church. All had been identified with the Roman Catholic, the Lutheran, the Reformed, the Moravian, the Mennonite, or some one of the Reformation branch. Among their scanty baggage, deep down in the traditional wooden chest, there was a Bible, a Liturgy, a Hymn-book, a Catechism. The Pastor and the Schoolmaster headed the colony to the New World. Simultaneously with their log houses, there rose the log school and the log church. The church and school were twin buildings in the American wilds. These two structures you may still witness, throughout certain nooks and corners in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Why does not that Pennsylvania-German artist—ROTHERMEL—paint the landing of the Germans as the landing of the Pilgrims has been thrown on canvas? In 1749, twelve schoolmasters came across the Atlantic in one cluster. Dr. Benjamin Rush, the author of the “Manners of the German Inhabitants of Pennsylvania,” says: “All the different sects among them are particularly attentive to the religious education of their children, and the establishment and support of the Christian religion. They commit the education of their children, in a peculiar manner, to the ministers and officers of their churches. Hence, they grow up in the *biases* in favor of public worship and the obligations of Christianity. Such has been the influence of a pious education among the Germans in Pennsylvania that in the course of nineteen years not one of them has ever been brought to a place of public shame or punishment.”—1769. This is good and strong testimony; all the more so, since it comes from Dr. Rush, in whose veins not a drop of German blood ever flowed.

The charge made against our forefathers, that they stood out against learning, is false. Why did their school houses always rise with their churches? Why was the schoolmaster always at the right hand of the pastor?

The General Assembly of Pennsylvania passed an Act March 10, 1787, which reads thus:

“An Act to incorporate and endow the German College and Charity School in the borough of Lancaster.” The preamble explains the object in these words:

“Whereas, the citizens of this State of German birth



or extraction, have eminently contributed by their industry, economy and public virtues, to raise the State to its present happiness and prosperity; and whereas, a number of citizens of the above description, in conjunction with others, from a desire to increase and perpetuate the blessings derived to them from the possession of property and a free government, have applied to this House for a charter of incorporation, etc.: and whereas, the presentation of the principles of the Christian religion and of our Republican form of government in their purity depend, under God, in a great measure in the establishment and support of suitable places of education, for the purpose of training a succession of youths, who being unable fully to understand the grounds of both, may be led more zealously to practice the one, and the more strenuously to defend the other, etc. That the youth shall be taught in German, English, Latin and Greek, and the other learned languages, in Theology, in the useful Arts, Sciences and Literature."

This was the seed-bed of Franklin and Marshall College. Its Principal and President was a native Pennsylvania-German, the Rev. Dr. Henry Ernest Muhlenberg.

Good old Dr. Franklin contributed largely to its planting. Some fifteen years earlier this artiste statesman and philosopher had been filled with the current Yankee prejudice against the Germans. In 1753 he wrote bitter words against this people. He learned better, and was wise enough to retract his error. After he had been enlightened, and came to appreciate their stalwart virtues, he cried: "*Peccavi!*" Herein he differed from those who

still serve up their *Crambe bis repetita*. Like the story of Galileo, it will not down. Men who know not what they do, continue to write of the Pennsylvania-Germans as of a race of serfs and slaves.

In 1836, a Buffalo sheet spoke of them as a petrification—the like of which is no more to be found in the Old World. The *Public Ledger*, of Philadelphia, replied to the lines of the stupid and ignorant scribbler, in words which did honor to the head and heart of the gentlemanly and candid writer. “It is time,” said he, “that the truth should be spoken and justice done to our Pennsylvania-Germans. We are willing to go as far as anyone in testifying to the value of books, newspapers and schools, etc., but we are not yet so silly, to say that a man is necessarily a bad man, a poor farmer, a disorderly citizen or a profligate husband because he does not speak English, is not crammed with book-learning or does not take in a half dozen journals. In many particulars, German farmers surpass even the people of New England, who of late, have put in the claim, it would seem, to be the *ne plus ultra* of all things.”

The Emperor of Germany said in bold words what you never heard any other modern ruler say; he said what I would like to hear our Governors and Presidents say; he said: “The Germans fear no one but Almighty God!” That is characteristic of German blood, and has been from the time when Tacitus wrote of their great, grand and immortal ancestors—The Teutons.

All praise to the Pennsylvania-German Governors; to Simon Snyder, Hiester and Shultz, to Ritner, and Wolf,

and Shunk, and Hartranft, for their contributions toward the founding and fostering of the Common Free School System; praise the memories of Thomas H. Burrowes, Thaddeus Stevens, to Dr. Wickersham and Dr. Higbee.

But weighed in the balance, the Parochial school, in the sunshine and shadow of the Christian church, will draw the beam. Thrice blessed be the words of the earlier pedagogues, whose names are written in heaven.

We lately attended the general services of one of the last of their race, Francis G. Berndt, of Egypt, Lehigh county, Pa. One full half century he taught the youths and children of the parish to spell and read, to write and reckon, and to sing and pray. Ministers, attorneys, physicians and pious men in all spheres of life came to look upon his dead face for the last time. About the time and day when some of you in Lancaster bore our good and learned friend to his resting place, Dr. Wickersham, others of us stood at the tomb of this Pastor's Helper.

General Lafayette is known as a "Hero of two Worlds." To my mind, those school masters of the church are fully entitled to the same distinction.

Let us hear, finally, what a jovial stranger thought and said of the "Pennsylvania Dutch:"

"I have lately passed through the Dutchiest part of Pennsylvania and have observed some new and instructive points I never thought of before. Apparently said Dutch are a sedate people. In reality they are as religious and more Puritanistic than New Englanders were fifty years ago. They are as sharp as Yankees after money, more saving and more generous. They are more intelligent,

independent and happy than they appear, and bashful before strangers, especially the ladies. These and other traits make them appear exclusive and clannish, yet they are the most social and comical people in America. Among them (if one understands their glib dialect) one can hear more words, jokes and hearty laughs in a minute than in even the modern Greek or *nue hoch Deutsch*. I now have learned that the Pennsylvanians, who are well acquainted in English, cling to their dialect in small, rapid talk and the firing of a multiplicity of jokes. They laugh oftener than do the Yankees, their women can deliver four words to a Yankee woman's one in English, and more when excited. Therefore, Pennsylvania Dutch is a phonetic dialect. I patent this idea, and say to those who make 'fun of it' that they can find more comical, witty characters—real Yankees—in Pennsylvania than in all New England."

After the address of Dr. C. Z. Weisser, in view of the fact that a number of gentlemen had said that they would be obliged to leave the city, L. L. Grumbine, Esq., of Lebanon, Pa., made a motion to suspend the regular order of business as laid down on the programme, and turn to the consideration of the constitution, which was seconded and carried.

The report of the Committee on the Constitution in general was read, and also that of the Committee on Membership. On motion the proposed Constitution was taken up for consideration, article by article. The first and second articles were accepted as reported, with but little discussion. The third article, however, called forth consider-

able difference of opinion; particularly the second section referring to the qualifications for regular membership. The discussion of this point consumed the greater part of the afternoon session. On the one hand it was maintained that only natives of Pennsylvania of German descent were really Pennsylvania-Germans, and that such only should be eligible to regular membership. To admit persons born in Germany or Switzerland would be to virtually make the Society a German Society. There must be a distinction between foreign-born and American-born Germans; and this would best be done by confining regular membership to the latter and giving the privilege of associate membership to the former. On the other hand it was argued that the place of birth was not as important a consideration as spirit and temper. There were many foreign-born Germans who had done more for the interests of the Pennsylvania-Germans, in studying and recording their history, who had shown a truer interest in their cause, and were more truly in sympathy with the purpose and end of this Society, than any Pennsylvania-born Germans. To make the distinction proposed would be to bar out such men as Dr. Seidensticker, and some of the original movers in the present organization. In reply it was said that all such persons could still become members, that is, associate members, with all the rights and privileges of regular members, except that of holding office and of having a vote on questions of property or location.

General Louis Wagner, of Philadelphia, here arose and said it was evident to him that he, being a foreign-born German, was not wanted in the Society; for as to becoming

an associate member, that, under the circumstances, was like taking the second table at dinner, which he did not intend doing. He would therefore ask to be excused and would retire from the floor of the convention. At the same time he would state that the committee from the German Society, of Philadelphia, represented by him and Dr. Oswald Seidensticker, had been instructed to offer the use of the German Society's building and library to this Society, which he took great pleasure in herewith doing. Thereupon Gen. Wagner and Dr. Seidensticker took seats among the audience.

After the discussion had consumed considerable time, the question was put, and article third as it now stands was adopted.

The next question that promised to call forth prolonged discussion was article seventh, on the location of the Society's permanent headquarters. It was finally referred to the Executive Committee for action.

Dr. Stahr then moved that the rest of the Constitution be adopted in the form in which it had been reported by the Committee on Constitution, which was done.

Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, of Lebanon county, next arose and asked to be excused from delivering the address for which he was down on the programme. This was not granted, however, and Mr. Schantz then read the following paper:

**"WHAT I KNOW OF PENNSYLVANIA-GERMANS."**

As I was born at the head of Cedar Creek, in Upper Macungie township, Lehigh (Lecha) county, in Pennsyl-



vania, I ought to know something of Pennsylvania-Germans. My parents were born in Pennsylvania before the year 1800. My two grandfathers and two grandmothers were borne in this country or came to this country when young in years. My four great-grandfathers and four great-grandmothers were all of German parentage. How glad I would be if I had the portraits of all of these, and also of my eight German great-great grandfathers and my eight German great-great grandmothers!

I have resided among the Pennsylvania-Germans for more than fifty years—first in Lehigh county, then in Lancaster, later in Adams, still later in Berks, a second time in Lehigh, and for many years in Lebanon county. When a boy of 12 years I became a resident of Allentown, and I was greeted as a Pennsylvania-German, for the boys called me “bush knippel.” When I became a student of the Theological Seminary at Gettysburg I received an anonymous letter advising me to study Webster’s dictionary daily.

The Pennsylvania-Germans are not the descendants of Indians—nor did their ancestors come from Africa. Their ancestors came from the German Fatherland—the home of Martin Luther. To tell you of the experience of my Great-grandfather Schantz and his four sons, two of whom were in service for a number of years to pay passage money, would be the repetition of the experience of the ancestors of others here to-day. The history of the settlements of Germans at Germantown and other places in Pennsylvania, on the Hudson, the Schoharie and Mohawk in New York, and of the journey of some of them



to Pennsylvania and their settlement in the Tulpehocken region in Pennsylvania is well known. What our ancestors suffered in ships in crossing the Atlantic, and what trials on land they had, who first found shelter in dug-outs, in hollow trees, in hastily constructed huts, or under rude tents under great trees, has often been told.

Our ancestors and their descendants have turned a wilderness into beautiful gardens. This was accomplished by severe labors. For a long time men knew nothing of modern improvements to aid in removing forests, preparing the soil, sowing the seed and gathering the harvest.

The country, once the home of Indians, became dotted with the dwellings of immigrants. The rude log house was followed by the substantial stone dwelling, and this again by the stately mansion of brick or other carefully prepared materials. Villages became towns and towns became cities with their many industries.

Our people have taken an interest in schools, for the old parochial school, the subsequent private schools, the academy and seminary in villages and towns, the public schools and normal schools of a latter day, as also the regular colleges and institutions for the pursuit of professional studies, testify that they are in favor of education.

And what of our people with respect to their regard for the Christian religion? The plain log church, with its pulpit erected on the stump of a tree, with no wooden, but stone floor, with rude pews, and for a long time without a stove, was dear to them. The erection of church buildings of stone or brick was a great event to them. And to-day the many beautiful church buildings, not only in

towns and cities, but also rural districts, and the large congregations at public services and the many children at sessions of the Sunday school, show the interest of our people in the Christian religion. A few years ago two men of New England visited a friend in one of our towns. On a Sunday morning, whilst taking a ride with their host, they observed many people on their way to churches. One of them remarked: "You still make use of churches here; at our home we are beyond such use of them."

Our people have taken an interest in the affairs of the State. To cast a ballot is the great privilege of the citizen. Many have also filled offices of great trust. The Pennsylvania-German Governors have not disgraced their fellow citizens. The Pennsylvania-Germans honored Geo. Washington, and he had the highest regard for them. My father voted for General Jackson, and if my mother could have voted I have no doubt she also would have voted for him. I was more of a politician in 1844, when I was eight years old and sang what Parson Jeremiah Schindel had composed in praise of Polk, Dallas and Shunk, than I was in subsequent years. Perhaps it is owing to the fact that clergymen are expected to be silent in politics. When in 1861, on the first fast day appointed by Abraham Lincoln, which I considered it proper to observe, as also subsequent days of Thanksgiving and Prayer, I said in my sermon that demagogues had caused the war, I offended some people greatly, for I was charged with having said that Democrats had caused the war. On a later occasion I spoke of the fact that colored people emancipated by Abraham Lincoln's celebrated proclamation,

were learning to read, and that white people who had not yet learned to read, might profitably follow their example. I again gave offense. I suppose some men would have doubted my word if I told them that my father had voted for Andrew Jackson and that I followed in the footsteps of my father politically. Since that day I have said little but voted once at many elections. I have never been a repeater.

Pennsylvania-Germans have served as soldiers. Not many years ago I heard a man speak of one of his ancestors who was with the forces led against the French and Indians in western Pennsylvania and of incidents of his experience.

The three hundred men who gathered on Benjamin Speicher's farm near Stouchsburg, in Berks county, whom Conrad Weiser counselled for the defense of their home, to whom Pastor J. Nicolas Kurtz preached the word of God and for whom he offered prayer, were willing to move forward to guard the gaps in the mountains to prevent invasion by the Indians. The Revolutionary War was marked by the services of our ancestors. I rejoice to-day that my grandfather was no Tory, but a soldier of the war for Independence. In the war of 1812-1814 many of the fathers of men still living were enlisted and marched to the defense of their country. My father was one of the soldiers at Marcus Hook. But the soldiers at Marcus Hook did not get to see the enemy. Brave men were marched to York, Pa., to be led to Baltimore.

At York, however, the courage of one man ended—for he told his companions, "Boys I am going home. I

heard that the British are coming up the turnpike with their war vessels. Who knows what may happen." Brave Pennsylvania-Germans fought in the war with Mexico. And who can speak enough in praise of the Pennsylvania-German soldiers in the late war for the preservation of our glorious union.

And what of the language of the Pennsylvania-Germans? The ancestors spoke the dialect of their respective homes in Germany. Their language of devotion was the German of Luther's translation of the Holy Bible. The use of the English language had its influence in affecting the purity of the dialect. The introduction of the use of the English has wrought great changes. We have to-day Pennsylvania-Germans who speak in English, but are not able to read the Bible in German, nor to speak the dialect. We have others who speak the dialect, but no English and no high German. Many speak the dialect and English, and a large number speak the dialect, English and high German. Pennsylvania-Germans are asked to-day where they were born in Germany. Pennsylvania-Germans have been taken for men of English descent. Those of our number who heard their fathers speak the dialect and their mothers the same—with very rare attempts to speak English cannot well lose their attachment to the language of their early homes. No wonder that people never grow tired of Harbaugh's poems. No wonder that people will sit for two hours and longer without signs of weariness when listening to a lecture in Pennsylvania-German. No wonder that the plain Pennsylvania farmer, who wished to see the King of Saxony, gained en-

trance to the palace, when the King heard the farmer shouting to the guard who did not wish to admit him: "Sagt 'em Koenig es waer en Bauer do vun Pennsylvfenie in de United States der deht ihn gern sehne." And when the King had ordered the guard to admit him no wonder the King was pleased with the Pennsylvania-German farmer, who extended his hand to the King and said: "Well, Koenig, wie gehts, wie kummscht a?"

Pennsylvania Germans have served their country well in the increase of the population of the same. Examine some of the old family records and read the long list of names under the heading, "Birth and Baptism." Not long ago I traveled with a gentleman whose home is in a suburb of Boston. He acknowledged that many New England families of the present day number but few children and many none. He spoke of the fact that in the South at present many families number many children, accounting for a great increase in population. I told him that Pennsylvania-German families, even of to-day, have often many children. I told him that some years ago I attended a funeral. I rode to the cemetery in an omnibus, in which there was an old lady, who said: "It is hard to lose a child. I had twenty-three children, and when one of them died I felt very sad." I said to the lady: "And so, mother, you had twenty-three children?" She replied promptly: "Yes, sir; I had twenty-three and here is my daughter, who has also already eleven." A good record for Pennsylvania-Germans—not readily broken by Yankees.

Pennsylvania-Germans left eastern counties of Pennsyl-



vania and moved southwestward and westward. Think of the population we would now have in Eastern Pennsylvania if all had remained here. Before 1800 some of my relatives had settled in Bedford county, and others were soon in the western part of Pennsylvania and in Ohio. After the death of my great-grandfather, in the line of my father's family, my great-grandmother, aged more than 90 years, traveled in a covered wagon to Bedford county to have, for a time, her home with a son. She died there and was buried in said county. In the fall of 1888 I attended a reunion of the Bortz family near Shenango, in Mercer county.

Two hundred and fifty persons gathered and dined in an orchard. More than two hundred of the persons present were descendants and relatives of several families who settled in Western Pennsylvania in the twenties of this century. I have met Pennsylvania-Germans in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and on the prairies of North Dakota. We know of the great number in Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. In the month of December I officiated at home at the funeral of the wife of a Pennsylvania-German, who had asked her husband before her death at Tacoma, Washington, to take her remains to her early home in Lebanon county to be buried there. In India, in distant Asia, Pennsylvania-Germans have labored and died in mission work.

Where Pennsylvania-Germans have settled, the story of Pennsylvania-German piety, honesty, industry and success in life has been repeated. Even in our day the Pennsylvania-German still moves westward, and his influence is for good in his western home.

Whilst I rejoice in being a member and minister in the Christian Church—the highest honor we can attain to on earth; whilst I am proud of being a citizen of the United States—the finest government in the world; whilst I am glad to be able to say I am of the good old Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I glory in the fact of being of Pennsylvania-German descent and having no reason to be ashamed of my ancestors. I take great pleasure in visiting the places where they dwelt, where they attended church services and worshiped the Triune God, and where their graves are in Pennsylvania soil.

In the fall of 1888, when the General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America met in Minneapolis, the members of the same were invited to attend the great festival of the Swedes, who celebrated the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Swedes on the banks of the Delaware. The day was marked by so much rain that the intended great procession of Swedish congregations, Sunday-schools and societies on the beautiful avenues of Minneapolis had to be abandoned. In the immense building of the Inter-State Exposition there was, however, a gathering of no less than seven thousand Swedes, who were full of enthusiasm in singing, in prayer, in speaking and in their applause when the history of the toils, labors and success of their countrymen was repeated. A number of the delegates of the General Council were favored with seats on the platform where the addresses were delivered. I sat within thirty feet of the speakers, and I distinctly remember the remark made by a delegate, a distinguished doctor of theology from Eastern Pennsyl-



vania: "I doubt whether the Germans could secure such a gathering in Pennsylvania." I have often thought of that remark, and I repeat it here to-day, with the sincere wish that the Pennsylvania-German Society, organized here to-day, may succeed in securing at a time not far distant great gatherings of Pennsylvania-Germans to commemorate important events in the life of their ancestors of whom they may be justly proud.

I trust the day will come when the settlement of Palatines in the Tulpehocken will be properly celebrated at the grave of Conrad Weiser on his farm, not far from Womelsdorf, in Berks county. Not long before his death General Washington spent a night at Womelsdorf, and during his stay honored the memory of Conrad Weiser by visiting his grave, and why should not Pennsylvania-Germans, nearly a century later, rejoice in the privilege of standing where Washington stood and bestowing similar honors?

The old Trappe church in Montgomery county was erected in 1745, and is still standing. I can never forget that when I visited the same in the spring of 1866, I was alone one morning within its ancient walls. After viewing its old pulpit and altar, its unpainted pews, and its old organ, many of the pipes and other parts of which had been carried off by visitors (I saw a part of the organ at Decatur, Ill., in 1888), I was so impressed by what I saw, and by the recollection of the holy men who had served within those walls, of the people, including some of my relations, who had their spiritual home in the same, of the meetings of our old Mother Synod held there, that I could

not refrain from kneeling before the old altar and thanking God for the blessings he had bestowed upon the fathers and mothers, the benefits of which we still enjoy, and to ask for the continuance of His favors to our people.

And why should we not on some day in the near future have a great gathering at the Trappe—at the grave of the Patriarch Muhlenberg—who labored most faithfully for the spiritual welfare of our ancestors; at the grave of General Peter Muhlenberg, the friend of General Washington, and the successful commander of soldiers of the Revolutionary war; at the grave of Governor Shunk, the distinguished Pennsylvania-German, Chief Magistrate of our beloved Commonwealth.

I have named but two places for such great gatherings—scores, yea, many scores of places might be named for such great meetings of our people in the future.

Much might be said of the Pennsylvania-Germans of the past; let us so live in the fear, worship and service of the Triune God, in strict obedience to State and National laws, in faithful devotion to our callings, in our respective spheres of activity, in the performance of duties in our homes, that when men in the distant future will speak of Pennsylvania-Germans, they may have no occasion to pass over our period in silence, but may take pleasure in speaking well of, as we take pleasure now of speaking well of, our ancestors.

A motion was made and carried to pass a vote of thanks to Mr. Schantz for remaining and delivering his excellent address.

## THE PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

Dr. Stahr, Chairman of the Committee on Permanent Organization, reported that they would nominate the following for permanent officers:

President—Dr. Wm. H. Egle, Harrisburg.

Vice-President—Hon. Edwin Albright, Allentown.

Secretary—F. R. Diffenderffer, Lancaster.

Treasurer—Julius F. Sachse, Esq., Berwyn.

Executive Committee—Dr. J. Max Hark, Lancaster; L. L. Grumbine, Esq., Lebanon; H. A. Muhlenberg, Esq., Reading; E. H. Rauch, Mauch Chunk; Hon. J. S. Hess, Hellertown; E. W. S. Parthemore, Harrisburg; Judge S. W. Pennypacker, Philadelphia; Dr. C. Z. Weiser, East Greenville; C. P. Humrich, Esq., Carlisle; Hon. A. Hiestand Glatz, York.

Dr. Stahr moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the German Society of Philadelphia for their generous offer.

The Secretary of the Society was instructed to cast the ballot for the officers nominated, which was accordingly done, and the gentlemen named declared elected.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. E. W. Parthemore:

*Resolved*, That a Publication Committee, to consist of five members, be nominated and elected, to whom shall be referred the different papers read at this meeting, which, together with the proceedings of the preliminary conference and the full minutes, shall be published in a volume.

The following were appointed on the committee: E. W. Parthemore, F. R. Diffenderffer, Dr. Stahr, Dr. Hark and H. Young, Esq.

The Secretary was instructed to receive the initiation fees of the members in the absence of the Treasurer.

It was moved and carried that when this Convention adjourn it do so to convene at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall decide.

The Convention then adjourned.

# CONSTITUTION

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## *ARTICLE I.—Name.*

The name of this organization shall be "The Pennsylvania-German Society.

## *ARTICLE II.—Object.*

The object of the Society shall be:

First: To perpetuate the memory and foster the principles and virtues of the German ancestors of its members, and to promote social intercourse among the latter.

Secondly: To discover, collect and preserve all still existing documents, monuments, etc., relating to the genealogy and history of the Pennsylvania-Germans, and from time to time publish them, particularly such as shall set forth the part belonging to this people in the growth and development of American character, institutions and progress.

Thirdly: To gather by degrees a library for the use of the Society, composed of all obtainable books, monographs, pamphlets, manuscripts, etc., relating to the Pennsylvania-Germans.

Fourthly: To cause statedly to be prepared and read before the Society, papers, essays, etc., on questions in the history or genealogy of the Pennsylvania-Germans.

## *ARTICLE III.—Membership.*

SECTION 1. First: The members of the Society shall consist of three classes, viz.: Regular, Associate and Honorary.

Secondly: No one shall be eligible as a regular member unless he be of full age, of good moral character, and a direct descendant of early German or Swiss emigrants to Pennsylvania.

Thirdly: No one shall be eligible as an associate member unless he be of full age, good moral character, and of German descent not native in this State, or a foreign-born German naturalized and resident in this State not less than ten years. The rights and privileges of an associate member shall be the same as those of a regular member, except that he shall be ineligible to office, and shall have no vote on questions of property or location.

Fourthly: Persons who have made the history, genealogy, principles, etc., of the Pennsylvania-German a special subject of study and research, and any other persons eminent in their profession or calling, to whatever nationality they may belong, who have shown themselves in sympathy with the Pennsylvania-Germans, shall be eligible to honorary membership.

SEC. 2. The mode of electing members shall be as follows: Candidates may be proposed in writing to the Executive Committee. Such nominations, with a written statement of the name, address, occupation and descent of each candidate, shall be considered at the next meeting of said Committee after the nomination has been made, who shall pass thereon. If no objection be made the said committee shall report favorably upon the nomination, and the candidate shall be considered as duly elected; but if any member of the Executive Committee demand a ballot, the election shall be by ballot, and a two-third vote

of the members of the Committee present shall be necessary to elect.

SEC. 3. The annual dues of regular and associate members shall be two dollars. In both cases payment must be made in advance. The payment of twenty-five dollars constitutes any regular member a life member. Regular and associate members must pay their first annual dues and sign this Constitution, before entering upon the enjoyment of the rights and privileges of membership.

SEC. 4. Should any member neglect to pay his annual dues for one year after the same shall become due, he shall *ipso facto* cease to be a member of the Society, unless, upon a satisfactory excuse being given, and the payment of all arrearages, the Executive Committee shall see fit to remit the penalty.

SEC. 5. The Executive Committee shall have power, by a vote of a majority of its members, to suspend or forfeit the membership of any member of the Society for conduct likely to endanger the welfare and interests of the Society, an opportunity being first given such member to be heard before the Executive Committee in his defense.

SEC. 6. Any person who shall cease to be a member of the Society shall forfeit all right or interest in the property of the Society.

#### *ARTICLE IV.—Officers.*

SECTION 1. First: The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer and an Executive Committee of eleven members.



Secondly: The President, Vice Presidents and Treasurer shall be elected at each annual meeting; and the President shall be ineligible for re-election.

Thirdly: The Secretary shall be elected for a term of three years and shall be *ex-officio* a member of the Executive Committee.

Fourthly: The Executive Committee elected at the first election shall divide itself into five classes. The first class of two members shall hold office for five years; the second class of two for four years; the third class of two for three years; the fourth class of two for two years, and the fifth class of two for one year. At each annual meeting thereafter successors shall be chosen to the class whose terms shall then expire.

SEC. 2. All elections shall be by ballot, under the direction of inspectors, to be appointed by the President, and a majority of votes shall elect.

#### ARTICLE V.—*Duties of Officers.*

First: The duties of the President shall be those usually pertaining to that office; and also to deliver an address at the annual meeting.

Secondly: The duties of the Vice President shall be the same as those ordinarily belonging to that office.

Thirdly: The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep an accurate record of all the proceedings of the Society; to conduct the correspondence of the Society; to notify members of the meetings of the Society; to inform officers and new members of their election; to countersign all drafts made on the Treasurer; and to call and arrange for

all writings of the Society, under the direction of the Executive Committee; he shall also act as Librarian and Curator, and have the keeping of all books, pamphlets, manuscripts, and personal articles pertaining to the Society.

Fourthly: The duties of the Treasurer shall be to collect, and under the direction of the Executive Committee disburse the funds of the Society and to keep regular accounts thereof, which shall be subject to the examination of the President and the Executive Committee. He shall submit a statement thereof to the Executive Committee at each regular meeting, and his accounts shall be audited once every year.

Fifthly: The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to examine and pass upon the credentials of candidates; to engage suitable persons to deliver the addresses and prepare the papers contemplated in this Constitution; to make all other arrangements necessary for the meetings of the Society, and to transact all business of the Society not otherwise provided for in the Constitution. It shall also have power to fill any vacancy which may occur from death or resignation among the officers of the Society, for the unexpired term of the office so vacated.

Sixthly: The Executive Committee shall, from time to time, make by-laws, rules and regulations, and appoint standing committees and sub-committees on matters not herein determined.

#### *ARTICLE VI.—Meetings.*

1. The Society shall hold one regular meeting each year, to be known as the anniversary meeting, which shall

be characterized by special exercises, including a banquet, to be arranged for by the Executive Committee.

2. The Executive Committee shall have authority to call three additional meetings of the Society each year, time and place to be designated by the Executive Committee, at each of which the current business of the Society may be transacted, and one or more papers or essays shall be read on questions in the genealogy or history of the Pennsylvania-Germans.

3. The Executive Committee shall hold its regular meetings on the same dates as the regular meetings of the Society, and special meetings, whenever called by its chairman, notice of which must be given to each member of the Committee not less than ten days prior to the meeting.

#### *ARTICLE VII.—Headquarters.*

The Headquarters of the Society shall be located in

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#### *ARTICLE VIII.—Amendments to the Constitution.*

1. To amend the Constitution an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at the annual meeting shall be requisite.

2. Amendments to the Constitution can be offered only at the annual meeting, and no amendment shall be voted upon at the same meeting at which it is offered.

## BY-LAWS

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### *I.—Order of Business.*

At all meetings of the Society the order of business shall be as follows:

1. Reading and Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting.
2. Reports of Officers and Committees.
3. Miscellaneous Business.
4. Reading of Papers or Delivery of Addresses.
5. Adjournment.

### *II.—Annual Meeting.*

The annual meeting of the Society shall be held on the second Wednesday of October at such place and hour as the Executive Committee shall appoint, and at least ten days' notice of the same shall be sent to each member by the Secretary.

### *III.—Appointment of Committees.*

All committees except the Executive Committee and its sub-committees shall be appointed by the President or the Chairman of the meeting, unless specially named in the resolution creating the committee; and the person first named shall be chairman of each committee.

### *IV.—The Executive Committee.*

The Executive Committee shall each year divide itself into the following sub-committees: A Committee of

Three on Finance; a Committee of Three on Genealogy; and a Committee of Five on History and Tradition. These committees to be appointed by the Chairman.

*V.—The Committee on Finance.*

The Committee on Finance shall, at least once in each year, and oftener, if they choose, audit the accounts and vouchers of the Treasurer of the Society, and report upon the same at the annual meeting of the Society, and oftener to the Executive Committee, as they may see fit, or as the latter may order.

*VI.—The Committee on Genealogy.*

It shall be the duty of the Committee on Genealogy to collect and preserve, in accordance with the Constitution, information and documents relating to the Genealogy of the members of the Society, and of the German and Swiss settlers of Pennsylvania and of the American colonies. The Committee may expend the funds of the Society for this purpose, subject to the subsequent approval of the Executive Committee.

*VII.—The Committee on History and Tradition.*

It shall be the duty of the Committee on History and Tradition to collect and preserve, in accordance with the Constitution, information, documents, books and monuments relating to the history and traditions of the members of the Society, and of the German and Swiss settlers and their descendants in Pennsylvania and the rest of the United States; and to print and publish the same, and papers and essays relating to the same, copyrighting orig-

inal publications for the benefit of the Society. The Committee may expend the funds of the Society for this purpose, subject to the subsequent approval of the Executive Committee.

*VIII.—Attendance of Members of the Executive Committee.*

Neglect on the part of any member of the Executive Committee to attend the meeting of said Committee for three consecutive meetings shall be a tender of his resignation from that Committee. But the Committee may excuse any member for such absence if good and sufficient reasons therefor be given.

*IX.—Amendments.*

These By-Laws can be altered, amended or abrogated only at a regular meeting of the Executive Committee, by the affirmative vote of six members of the said Executive Committee.

# OFFICERS

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(1891.)

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## *President.*

William H. Egle, M.D.

## *Vice Presidents.*

Henry A. Muhlenburg, Esq.,  
Judge Edwin Albright.

## *Secretary.*

Frank Ried Diffenderffer.

## *Treasurer.*

Julius F. Sachse, Esq.

## *Executive Committee.*

J. Max Hark, D.D.,  
E. W. S. Parthemore,  
Lee L. Grumbine, Esq.,  
Clement Z. Weiser, D.D.,  
Edwin H. Rauch,  
Hon. A. Hiestand Glatz,  
C. P. Humrich, Esq.,  
Hon. Jeremiah S. Hess,  
Judge Samuel W. Pennypacker,  
H. A. Muhlenburg, Esq.  
Frank Ried Diffenderffer.



*SUB-COMMITTEES.**Finance.*

H. A. Muhlenburg, Esq.,  
C. P. Humrich, Esq.,  
Hon A. Hiestand Glatz.

*Genealogy.*

E. W. S. Parthemore,  
Hon Jeremiah S. Hess,  
Edwin H. Rauch.

*History and Tradition.*

Lee L. Grumbine, Esq.,  
Clement Z. Weiser, D.D.,  
Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker,  
J. Max Hark, D.D.,  
Frank Ried Diffenderffer.

*Printing and Publishing.*

E. W. S. Parthemore,  
John S. Stahr, D.D.,  
J. Max Hark, D.D.,  
Hiram Young, Esq.,  
Frank Ried Diffenderffer.

*Meetings.*

Annual meetings of the Society on the second Wednesday of October.

*Meetings of Executive Committee.*

Second Wednesday of January.  
Second Wednesday of April.  
Second Wednesday of July.  
Second Wednesday of October.







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